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Palestinian Affairs

'Arafat Condemns Israeli, U.S. Actions in Gulf

NC3001191591 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1747 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Interview with PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat, identified by his nom de guerre, Abu-'Ammar, by correspondents Ahmad Birru and Widad 'Alam-al-Din; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Birru] Israel has been launching operations against the Palestinian camps and south Lebanon for the past two days. A Palestinian source in Sidon said yesterday that you ordered Palestinian forces to stage operations against Israel in support of Iraq. Would you like to comment?

['Arafat] First of all, it should be known that Israel has not ceased its attacks on Lebanese villages and Palestinian camps for a single moment since 1982; this front is hot and will remain so as long as there is Israeli occupation, shelling, and aggression. I want to remind everyone of the last air raid east of Sidon before the war erupted in the Gulf, a raid that resulted in a large number of martyrs and wounded. Therefore, Israeli aggression is continuing. At the same time, the Lebanese and Palestinian confrontation of this Israeli aggression will continue, regardless of whether it comes from the land, the sea, or the air. This is a legitimate right. The Israelis should not think that they can commit aggression and the people will be mere onlookers. This is over. The time when Israel could strike north, south, east, and west while people just accepted its blows has passed. Israel knows that the Lebanese and Palestinians have been confronting it with their bare hands, their lives, and their simple weapons since 1982. They are exercising their legitimate right to self-defense.

['Alam-al-Din] Abu-'Ammar, it is said that Israel is not taking part in the Gulf war. We know that you have a different opinion.

['Arafat] [Words indistinct] that Israel is not participating? Is this claim true just because the United States says that Israel is not participating to give it this cover and to preserve the hostile alliance against Iraq and the Arab nation? Israel is taking part with its aircraft. Its aircraft are deployed alongside U.S. aircraft at a number of bases. We do not forget it was Israel that destroyed the Iraqi nuclear reactor in 1981. It was Israel that assassinated the Arab and Iraqi scientists who were working in Iraq. The last of them was assassinated in France.

It is known that, following the end of the cold war and the conclusion of the military and political strategic treaty between Israel and the United States, Israel became the depot and arsenal for all the weapons that were transferred from Europe. Israel occupies Palestine, the Golan, and south Lebanon. In addition, there is now shelling from the Negev. The United States is covering this up and saying that submarines deployed in the Red Sea are doing the shelling. This is not correct. The shelling is originating from surface-to-surface missile launchers in the Negev.

Then [words indistinct] that it needs U.S. military protection [words indistinct] which is in Haifa, that is a U.S. aircraft carrier and the U.S. Patriot with U.S. crew and forces, as they said forces [preceding word in English], that is besides the batteries—batteries and forces [preceding three words in English].

['Alam-al-Din] Abu-'Ammar, are contacts continuing with President Saddam Husayn, and what is the latest information you have on the situation?

['Arafat] Of course, we are in constant contact with brother President Abu-'Uday [Saddam Husayn]. I want to assure the Arab nation and all free and honest people in the world: A mountain cannot be shaken by the wind.

[Birru] Abu-'Ammar, there are reports on a Palestinian-Algerian move to bring about a cease-fire.

['Arafat] In fact, it is a Palestinian-Arab Maghreb move. An hour ago, I met with brother [Tunisian] President Zine el Abidine. We had a discussion on this subject—the Maghreb initiative that was proposed to the UN Security Council. Earlier, I was in Morocco and before that Algeria. I continue Maghreb-Palestinian coordination with other states advocating an Arab solution. There are 10 Arab states that continue to insist that a solution must be a peaceful and Arab one under international auspicies. We continue coordination with all these parties, as well as with the [EC] troika. Yesterday, I met with an envoy from Portuguese President Soares—Portugal is one of the troika states.

[Birru] Are you also in contact with France in a bid to take a certain step with the European Community as a whole?

['Arafat] As I said, we are trying to halt this aggression. This is because we consider this aggression to be aimed not just at Iraq but also at Palestine, Lebanon, and the entire Arab nation. A disagreement surfaced even within the American-Atlantic-Zionist alliance that concerned, as you know, France's refusal at the beginning of the war to take part in any bombardment of Iraq, as the American alliance had gone beyond the resolutions this alliance says allow it to commit aggression. This is because these UN Security Council resolutions were issued under duress. The aggression against Iraq's territory and infrastructure—economic installations, civilian facilities, social establishments, schools, and holy places in al-Najaf, Karbala', al-Kazimiyah, and al-A'azmiyah—is a violation of the UN Security Council resolutions and an affront to international legitimacy. Well, where is international legitimacy in Palestine? Where is international legitimacy in southern Lebanon? Where is international legitimacy in Cyprus? Where is international legitimacy in the Golan Heights? I want to understand, is international legitimacy present in the Gulf only?

['Alam-al-Din] You know, Abu-'Ammar, that the French defense minister has resigned. In his letter of resignation, he said something that does not differ significantly from what you are saying. What do you think of France's current stand on the war? Will this resignation affect the course of events?

['Arafat] Undoubtedly, the bloc of peace-loving forces and those rejecting aggression is growing. This is not happening in France alone, but also throughout Europe and even in the United States. The Soviet-U.S. statement issued yesterday represents one of the points that have become the topic of a Soviet-U.S. argument. This is because, as is known, the Soviet Union rejects the U.S.-allied aggression against Iraq. China has taken the same stand. Therefore, what is taking place now is that these voices are increasing, especially after lies have been exposed and after it has been revealed that there is an aggression that far exceeds the false predictions made when the events began, to the effect that this battle would be a matter of hours or, at the most, days. I want to remind all people: How many were we in Beirut? We were a few fedayeen, but we were determined to hold fast. They believed they could finish us off within 24 hours, but we resisted for three months. We had no Scud, al-'Abbas, al-Hijarah, or al-'Abid missiles. We had no planes or tanks. If we held out for three months in Beirut, then Iraq and its Army and people can resist for three years. This is the will to fight. Nobody can crush the will to fight. Iraq will prevail. Nobody can crush the will to fight of the Arab nation, the Islamic nation, or the free and honorable people. Vietnam is an example. What could all the forces that were in Vietnam do? Where have they gone? The United States left Vietnam in defeat.

[Birru] The U.S.-Soviet statement you mentioned speaks of the possibility of stopping the war if Iraq commits itself to withdrawing from Kuwait. Is such a commitment possible?

['Arafat] Yes. In his 12 August initiative and since the start of events, President Saddam said: Yes. We are ready to apply international legitimacy in the entire Middle East and Gulf region using the same standard, not double standards. This initiative still stands. I was present in Baghdad when President Saddam conveyed it to Perez de Cuellar. He said: You are talking about international legitimacy. What international legitimacy? International legitimacy only in the Gulf? Where is international legitimacy in the Golan, in South Lebanon, in Palestine? There is an Iraqi stand that says yes to international legitimacy, but the latter is an indivisible whole. International legitimacy is not what the United States wants it to be.

I want to ask: If a peaceful solution was desired, why did the United States reject the last French plan? Why did the United States reject the Soviet-European statement? Why did the United States, through President Bush and Baker, reject the international conference at the last minute?

[Birru] Abu-'Ammar, is there is anything else you want to add?

['Arafat] I want to ask the whole world: Who gave Bush the right to destroy the civilization of Mesopotamia with such intensity? He is mistaken if he thinks he can bring the people of Mesopotamia and the Arab and Islamic nation to their knees. Human beings have built this civilization. Human beings will remain and they will triumph. Bush calls it a just war. Where is justice, when the Palestinian people have been without an identity, passport, or land for 43 years and when they have been refugees for 43 years? If he is concerned about oil- ...[changes thought] Has he come to the Gulf for the sake of Kuwait or to see it? He has come because of oil. If he is concerned about his oil, then we are concerned about our Islamic and Christian holy places. There is the starvation plot [in the occupied territories]. What is the meaning of 14 days of curfew? Things reached the point where people could not find food, not even bread. This was admitted by the UN Relief and Works Agency, which could not distribute supplies.

Therefore I tell my steadfast people: Patience. Just be patient. Just be patient. Just be patient. God is our succor. God is our succor. God is our succor.

I also tell my people, Kuwaitis, Palestinians, and Arabs in Kuwait who are daily being bombarded and shelled from the air, land, and sea, and I tell my kinsmen and dear ones the Iraqi people: Together and side by side we stand until victory, until victory, until victory.

['Alam-al-Din] Thank you, Abu-'Ammar.

['Arafat] Thank you.

Algeria

Ghazali Receives Yemeni Official 30 Jan

LD3001225691 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2230 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Foreign Minister Sid Ahmed Ghazali today received the deputy speaker of the Yemeni National Council (Yusuf Shahri), who delivered a message to President Chadli Bendjedid from the Yemeni president.

A statement released by the Foreign Ministry explained that during the talks the Yemeni envoy expressed his country's appreciation for Algeria's stand and its intensive efforts aimed at ending the war in the Middle East and finding a peaceful solution to this war for the sake of safeguarding the higher interests of the Arab nation.

For his part, Ahmed Ghazali told the Yemeni envoy that Algeria will continue its efforts, especially through greater mobilization of peaceloving forces, to end this war.

Foreign Minister Slated To Visit Tehran

LD3001181691 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Algerian Foreign Minister Sid Ahmed Ghazali will go to Tehran tomorrow to broaden the tendency which supports a stop to the Gulf war and a peaceful settlement of the crisis among the international community.

FLN Session Expresses Support for Iraq

LD3001231191 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1800 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] The extraordinary session of the Central Committee of the National Liberation Front [FLN], which focused on the Gulf, adopted a four-point resolution. Mr. Abdelhamid Mehri, secretary general of the FLN, now comments:

[Begin Mehri recording] Broadly speaking, while reaffirming, of course, the solidarity with the Iraqi people, the FLN considers that the main task is to do everything possible to stop the war. This must govern both diplomatic and popular actions. Second, we believe that the Arab and Muslim people must disregard the blockade imposed on Iraq in every way possible. We believe that an appeal must be launched to the Arab and Muslim countries taking part in the coalition asking them to end hostilities and, if the case arises, to withdraw from this coalition.

On the internal level we believe that the surge of popular support for Iraq is such that, with the agreement of all parties and organizations, we must set up a national committee of assistance to the Iraqi people able to coordinate both popular action against the war and material support for the Iraqi people. Our idea, our proposal is that we believe that the destinies of the Arab Maghreb countries are closely linked first to each other and then with what is happening in the Middle East, so it might be time to think about a conference to bring together the parties and the mass organizations of the countries of the Arab Maghreb to discuss the serious developments in that war and of its aftermath which is also very important.

Here is a rough summary of the resolution adopted by the Central Committee. You can see that it marks a stage in the action in favor of the Iraqi people. [end recording]

Then Mr Mehri gave his opinion on the Islamic Salvation Front march which is to take place tomorrow.

[Begin Mehri recording] I do not know the slogans which will lead that demonstration, but I believe that the effort must be directed against the war and at supporting the Iraqi people, by asking the Arab and Muslim countries which are taking part in the coalition to withdraw from it. I believe that these points represent the demands which illustrate the wishes of the Algerian people. Any effort to divert attention from this popular upsurge to strictly internal problems has no place in the present circumstances. [end recording]

Medical Society To Send Surgeons to Iraq

LD2801001191 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 27 Jan 91

[Text] The Algerian Medical Society for Solidarity With the Iraqi People has undertaken to collect, preserve, and deliver blood to the Iraqi people.

The Society has gotten in touch with the Iraqi Embassy to determine the needs of the Iraqi people in the medical field and to send a number of surgeons to Iraq.

The official spokesman of the society also announced the organization of a solidarity march with Iraq by doctors in their professional attire on Thursday [31 January]. The march will proceed to the UN premises in Algiers.

Egypt

Mubarak Returns From Saudi Arabia, Views Crisis

Urges Saddam To Respond to Peace Calls

NC3001225191 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2140 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Cairo, 30 Jan (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak has expressed hope that the ruler of Iraq will respond to all peace calls and protect his people.

In a statement upon his return to the homeland from Saudi Arabia this evening, President Mubarak said that we do not interfere in the internal affairs of any state, but stressed that the freedom of others should be respected.

All that we ask for, he said, is that no country commit aggression against any other and that Iraq leave Kuwait.

Asked about the Iraqi president's remarks to the U.S. television network CNN that there is no hope for a peaceful solution, President Mubarak replied: "Only God can guide him to the right path and make him preserve his people."

Says Egyptian Forces Will Not Enter Iraq

NC3101073491 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0550 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Cairo, 31 Jan (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak has stressed that the Egyptian forces in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia enjoy a big air umbrella. He underlined that our forces in the Kingdom have not yet fired a single shot and that we have not had any casualties. He affirmed that "we do not hide anything."

In remarks to Cairo newspapers' chief editors who accompanied him on the return journey from Saudi Arabia to Cairo last night, President Mubarak stressed that the Egyptian forces will not enter Iraq at all. He said that the mission of these forces is to contribute toward the liberation of Kuwait because this is a national stand.

President Mubarak added that Egypt supports the oppressed because this is its principle and conviction, of which all approve.

President Mubarak referred to Iraqi President Saddam Husayn's preoccupation with wars since taking power in Iraq. He said that if Saddam had withdrawn from Kuwait before 15 January and responded to the repeated appeals from the various international and Arab quarters, he would not have put the whole world in a difficult position.

President Mubarak spoke about the harm Saddam Husayn has caused to the Arab stand and about Israel's gains as a result of its bombardment by Iraqi missiles. He said that in Israel they have received $1 billion for each of the 13 missiles [fired on it]. In addition, Israel has received the Patriot anti-missile missile, which no one has acquired before.

On the topic of Egyptian-Syrian relations, President Mubarak stressed that there is full agreement between him and President Hafiz al-Asad and also between Egyptian and Syrian stands on Arab issues in general and the Gulf crisis in particular.

President Mubarak indicated that the difficult economic situation in Egypt is constantly improving as a result of the government's economic reforms.

He said that the cancellation of Egypt's military debts has eased its financial difficulties during December and January and has enabled it to secure some basic needs.

He explained that Egypt is facing some financial difficulties resulting from the Gulf crisis. But in the long run only right will prevail.

Paper Praises Mubarak Stance on Gulf Events

PM2901103991 Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 23 Jan 91 p 12

[Samir Rajab article: "Clear And Specific Message From Mubarak to All These Parties at Right Time]

[Text] President Mubarak always chooses the right time to talk to his fellow citizens and the world.

Without any flattery, President Mubarak's speeches are truthful, frank, and clear. They respond to the wishes of the masses yearning to know the development of events, especially in extraordinary circumstances.

The president's words yesterday were specific and conclusive in order to allow no party to play games, hesitate, think there is a change in positions, or volunteer to propose ideas and views that have no foundations in the world of reality.

In my view, President Mubarak's words are addressed primarily to the Egyptian people, who must always understand that the age we live in is the age of adhering to principles, the age of defending right, the age of protecting human rights everywhere.

They are also addressed to the Arab nation as a whole, especially the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Kuwait so they can be fully confident that Egypt will continue on the road right to the end, namely until Iraq withdraws from Kuwait and until security, stability, and territory are restored peacefully.

President Mubarak's words were addressed to Iraqi President Saddam Husayn so that he will not expect that Egypt will one day deviate from its principled and moral position it has adopted since 2 August. It is a stranger to one-upmanship, maneuvers, or the usual political tricks. Nor is it fooled by false military communiques.

Over the past two days some voices have emerged in Egypt demanding the withdrawal of our military forces from the Gulf. This is in addition to other voices proposing the submission of an Egyptian peace initiative. Under freedom and democracy everyone can say whatever he wants to say and propose whatever he wants. We are not like others. We are not muzzled like others. Nor has our will been stolen by one person who is an absolute ruler and whose decisions cannot be opposed. We, praise be to God, have all the constituents of a free life and enjoy our rights in full—which is sufficient for us.

I come back to say that some voices have emerged in Egypt demanding the withdrawal of our military forces from the Gulf. And President Mubarak came to eliminate doubt by providing the truth. He easily and politely explained the objective and logical reasons that prevent us from taking such a step, emphasizing that the decision was adopted following a thorough study based on legal and moral factors. The decision was not adopted hastily at all.

Thus those making proposals without knowledge or analyzing the situation without sufficient knowledge of the various dimensions must understand a firm fact—the cards are not all the same. And if they are used to plunging into what they know and what they do not know, they must realize that history is now being being redrafted in the world. No one should participate in that difficult task except those who are actually qualified to do so.

At the same time, these are Mubarak's words, a document for all. Egypt has always been and will continue to be a support for the Arabs, maintaining right, justice, and peace, regardless of any one-upmanship or cries from the enemies of warmth, love, sincerity, and light.

A final word: Perhaps the absolute ruler in Sudan has understood the message well so that he will not miscalculate or lead himself into the abyss from which there will be no way out.

Egypt believes that that absolute ruler does not in the slightest represent the fraternal Sudanese people, to whom we are bound by the most precious ties of amity and fraternity and who we hope will not one day shoulder, against their will, the mistakes of those who—like one of their friends—unexpectedly seized power and then turned to tyranny and suppression...!

Ghali Welcomes U.S.-Soviet Statement on Gulf

NC3001155991 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1415 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Cairo, 30 Jan (MENA)—Dr. Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, today welcomed the joint statement issued by the U.S. secretary of state and the Soviet foreign minister. He said the statement reflects and supports the resolutions of the world community which seek to achieve a settlement to the Gulf crisis.

Dr. Ghali said the statement included a call for finding a peaceful solution to the Middle East problem and the Palestinian question. He stressed that any settlement to the Gulf crisis must be based on adherence to the UN Security Council resolutions, particularly those concerning Iraq's withdrawal from Kuwait and the restoration of legitimacy there. He said that Egypt has already announced and now reaffirms that it welcomes any initiative to end the military operations in the Gulf provided these two conditions are met.

He pointed out that Iraq's withdrawal from Kuwait will lay the groundwork to embark immediately on achieving a solution to the Palestinian question, because such a withdrawal will set a precedent that can be applied to make Israel withdraw from the occupied Arab territories.

Palestine Issue To Draw Attention After War

NC3001143291 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Dr. Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, has said that Egypt will turn its attention to solving the Palestine problem after finding a solution to the Gulf problem. He said Egypt is endeavoring to mobilize efforts to start an international move to resolve the Palestine question. He also said that even though there is a difference between Egypt and the PLO, this does not mean that there are no contacts or cooperation.

This emerged in the speech delivered by Dr. Butrus Ghali at the opening session of the "Gulf crisis" seminar, organized by the Egyptian Diplomatic Institute. The session was attended by a number of foreign ambassadors in Cairo.

His excellency emphasized Egypt's abiding by the UN Security Council resolutions calling for the Iraqi troops' withdrawal and the return of legitimacy to Kuwait. He said a cease-fire in the Gulf can be achieved through a UN Security Council resolution with the approval of the permanent members, provided Iraq withdraws from Kuwait.

He said the Gulf war has highlighted the importance of the role played by the United Nations in resolving international disputes.

The ambassadors of China, the United States, Britain, France, and the Soviet Union also spoke during the session. They clarified their countries' position on the Gulf war and stressed the need for Iraqi troops' withdrawal from the Kuwaiti territories and their denunciation of Iraq's invasion and annexation of Kuwait, which, they said, contravenes the international resolutions and laws.

Foreign Minister: Conference in Israel's Interest

NC3101001591 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2150 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Washington, 30 Jan (MENA)—Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, is currently visiting Washington. He described the message he delivered to U.S. President George Bush from President Husni Mubarak as an expression of the very strong relations between Egypt and the United States.

He said the message affirms Egypt's strong stand regarding the Gulf crisis. He pointed out that Egypt's stand has been firm since the beginning of the crisis on 2 August.

He added that Egypt strongly condemns the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait. He stressed Egypt's insistence on the full and unconditional withdrawal of the Iraqi forces from Kuwait, the return of the legitimate government, and the full implementation of the UN Security Council resolutions.

Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid noted that President Bush gave him a message to be delivered to President Husni Mubarak. He expressed his joy at meeting President Bush.

In statements he made to journalists last night in Washington, 'Abd-al-Majid pointed out that he also met with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker and Secretary of the Treasury Nicholas Brady.

Asked if President Husni Mubarak is making efforts to convene a Middle East peace conference, 'Abd-al-Majid said: We did not discuss that; however, let me say about the Palestine question in particular, I did not discuss this subject today, but it is considered a part of our policy.

Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid added: I hope that we will make all efforts after the crisis to find a solution to the Palestine question. We must all work to accomplish peace and stability in the region.

Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid said: I believe that all countries and parties, including Israel, will soon benefit from peace. I say that because we consider the Palestine question the basic reason for establishing peace and security in the Middle East.

Responding to a question on the significance of the Iraqi fighter planes landing in Iran, Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid said it is difficult to determine the motives and reasons behind this move. However, having these highly developed and advanced planes on its territory definitely puts Iran in a distinguished position.

He pointed out that the Iranian side will keep these planes for itself; Iran will remain neutral in dealing with the Gulf crisis—a stand we consider wise and sound for Iran.

On whether the United States will deal with the Palestine question after the crisis, Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid said: We hope so. This is what we told our American friends. I found great understanding—and I say this with honesty and loyalty—for establishing peace and stability in the region after the crisis, which I hope will be over soon.

Asked if the fact that Israel has been subjected to Iraqi missile attacks will lessen the chances of convening an international conference on peace in the Middle East, 'Abd-al-Majid said: I hope this crisis will be solved totally. He added: I believe we all have to try to find a solution to the Palestine question.

He added: I repeat over and over again that it will be in Israel's interest to reach a solution.

Israeli Envoy on Retaliation at Right Time, Place

NC3001162591 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1431 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Excerpts] Cairo, 30 Jan (MENA)—Dr. Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, met today with Israel's ambassador in Cairo Efrayim Dubek. [passage omitted]

Following the meeting, the Israeli ambassador stated that he exchanged views with Dr. Ghali within the framework of dialogue between the two countries. The Israeli ambassador expressed the hope that Iraqi President Saddam Husayn would withdraw from Kuwait so that peace can return to the region.

The Israeli ambassador said that hitting Israel with Iraqi missiles has had psychological and material effects, and pointed out that there is fear in Israel that Iraq may use chemical weapons. He added that Israel has announced it will not waive the right to self-defense, and will retaliate in the right time and place and with the appropriate means. No country in the world would waive the right to self-defense, he added.

The Israeli ambassador welcomed the joint statement issued by the U.S. secretary of state and the Soviet foreign minister regarding a solution to the Palestine question. He also emphasized Israel's interest in the resolution of that problem, the issue of ties with the Arab states, and ending the state of war, provided this is done without any linkage to the current Gulf situation.

Chief of Staff Returns From Gulf Tour

NC3001163591 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1428 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Cairo, 30 Jan (MENA)—Lieutenant General Safiy-al-Din Abu-Shinaf, Egyptian Armed Forces chief of staff, today returned from the United Arab Emirates [UAE] following a three-day visit to Saudi Arabia and the UAE, during which he inspected the Egyptian forces in Hafar al-Batin and al-Shariqah and assured himself of the troops' competence and preparedness to face all eventualities.

The chief of staff discussed the situation of the Egyptian troops and their fulfillment of the tasks they have been entrusted with by the Saudi and UAE leaderships with Staff Major General Salah Halabi, commander of the Egyptian troops in Saudi Arabia, and Staff Brigadier General 'Ali Sayyid Muhammad, commander of the Egyptian troops in the UAE.

Lt. Gen. Abu-Shinaf also met with the commanders, officers, and soldiers in Saudi Arabia and the UAE. He praised their high-level and distinguished efforts and their fulfillment of the tasks they have been entrusted with.

Party Leaders Seek Joint Stance on Gulf Solution

PM3001163491 Cairo AL-AHRAM AL-DUWALI in Arabic 26 Jan 91 p 9

[Muhammad Yusuf al-Masri report: "Party Attempts To Use Popular Diplomacy To Put Pressure on Saddam Husayn To Withdraw"]

[Text] Last Monday Leaders of the Misr al-Fatah, Labor, [National Progressive Unionist] Grouping [NPUG],

Green, Liberal, and Ummah Parties met at the headquarters of Misr al-Fatah Party, which called the leaders of these parties together to discuss developments in the Gulf crisis, the war taking place there, and the role that the Egyptian political parties can play in connection with that crisis.

Mr. 'Abbas al-Masri, organization secretary of the Misr al-Fatah Party and proponent of the idea of convening that meeting, said in a statement to AL-AHRAM AL-DUWALI that the aim of the meeting was to mold public opinion through the political forces in Egypt and to explore the various parties' views in a bid to find a practical means of stopping the continuing war in the Gulf.

He added that the meeting took place within the context of popular diplomacy, which is a duty that the Egyptian political parties should perform. It also provided them with more flexibility. It is a method used throughout the world.

'Abbas al-Masri said that the party leaders consider themselves in permanent session until a general commitment is reached with regard to what popular diplomacy should do to help resolve the Gulf crisis.

He described the two meetings held so far—the second meeting was held Thursday evening at NPUG headquarters—as a step in the right direction, since the Misr al-Fatah Party wants to secure popular diplomacy from all the political forces in all the countries of the Arab world in order to put pressure on Iraqi President Saddam Husayn to withdraw from Kuwait as a condition for suspending military operations on both sides—that is, after requesting a meeting with President Mubarak.

Then Arab armies enter to replace the Iraqi forces in Kuwait. Then direct negotiations among President Saddam, King Fahd, and some Arab leaders should follow that, insofar as direct negotiation is the language of the age. NPUG Central Committee Secretary Dr. Rif'at al-Sa'id has said that the first meeting held at Misr al-Fatah headquarters produced a joint statement calling for a simultaneous withdrawal, for the Iraqi occupation forces' replacement by Arab forces, and for the start of negotiations between the two sides.

The first meeting decided to continue its proceedings to discuss the Gulf crisis and to adopt joint stances on it. Then it was agreed to hold the second meeting at NPUG headquarters, which was attended by representatives of the Misr al-Fatah, Ummah, Liberal, Green, NPUG, Nasirite, and Communist Parties.

Dr. Rif'at al-Sa'id said the Muslim Brotherhood were not invited because they are represented in the Labor Party. The Wafd Party was invited but refused to participate, saying that its position on the crisis had been declared and was well-known.

Dr. Rif'at al-Sa'id said that the Gulf crisis and the war taking place has affected the Egyptian parties, since the crisis has caused a major change in Egyptian feelings and rekindled positions that can be said to have previously disappeared or retreated for a long time—for instance, positions against the Americans, the feeling that the United States discriminates against the Arabs in favor of Israel, and an awareness of the need for Arab solidarity.

He said that these feelings reflect on party members and cadres and impose orientations on the Egyptian political parties.

He added that he believed that it was necessary to acknowledge the existence of a change in the general climate. Perhaps public opinion at first opposed Saddam's invasion of Kuwait and was content with that, but now it regards Saddam—within the context of the history of the Arab-Israeli conflict—as the one who has managed to hit Israel and to aim his strikes at the heart of Israel, not outside it. And he has also managed to confront the United States with all its strength.

Citizens also feel that the United States is pursuing a policy of dual standards on this issue: While it continues to pamper Israel, the aggressive party, it continues to launch a brutal war against Iraq.

At the same time, the United States is exceeding the boundaries of the Security Council. What is happening now is not the liberation of Kuwait, but a destruction of the Iraqi economic and military infrastructure.

The NPUG Central Committee secretary said that the leaderships of the Egyptian opposition parties explained their opinions and presented their views of the Gulf crisis at their meeting, held with a view to securing a cease-fire, with a pledge from Iraq to withdraw simultaneously with the Western forces and an attempt to find a settlement to the Palestinian issue.

He added that when the Arab people find wise and reasonable slogans they will rally around them.

Mauritania

Foreign Minister Urges Security Council Act on Gulf

AB3101165091 Paris AFP in French 2149 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Nouakchott, 30 Jan (AFP)—Mauritanian Foreign Minister Hanni Ould Didi today called on the Security Council to "assume its responsibilities in the face of the destructive action being carried out against Iraq and to play its role as a tool for peace and not for destruction." In a statement to the press in Nouakchott, Mr. Ould Didi also drew the attention of the international community to the gravity of this painful situation, which might degenerate and become more destructive. He expressed the view that "the assassination of children, women, and elders and the destruction of Iraq's historic sites and its

human and economic resources are contrary to democracy, human rights, and international law."

Meanwhile, the Mauritanian minister recalled the suffering of the Palestinian people, who have been suffering under a total curfew since hostilities broke out and about whom nobody speaks or cares." [quotation marks as received]

Sudan

Iraqi Military Installations Said Undamaged

EA3001171191 Khartoum SUNA in English 1036 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Khartoum, 30 Jan (SUNA)—Sudanese returnees Tuesday [29 January] have confirmed life was normal in Iraq despite the air raids of the allied forces on Iraqi towns. Interviewed by AL-INQADH AL-WATANI daily the returnees said the Iraqi military installations have not been affected while civilian and economic installations have been (?damaged). They also (?said the) situation in Iraq (?is) good and that Iraqi authorities have taken the necessary measures to secure food for all Iraqis. The Sudanese returnees have affirmed that the recent air raids have been random, a thing that led to the destruction of civilian targets including hospitals. Some 139 Sudanese nationals returned to Sudan from Iraq, Tuesday.

Medical Team To Go to Iraq To Treat Wounded

EA3001195491 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1415 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Khartoum, 30 Jan (SUNA)—A Sudanese medical team will leave for Baghdad this Saturday [2 February] to help treat the wounded among the sons of the fraternal Iraqi people who [word indistinct] the war carried out by the aggressive allied forces. Dr. Ibrahim Ghandur, member of the Supreme Council of Trade Unions and vice chairman of the Medical Union, told SUNA that the team comprised 13 persons, including specialists in surgery, anesthetics, and [word indistinct] operations. The team is taking surgical equipment and some medicines. Dr. Ghandur stated that the team was the first batch and more teams would follow later. He further said that the health unions have formed stand-by strategic medical teams which are fully prepared to travel to Iraq as volunteers, in solidarity with the Iraqi people against the ferocious imperialist attack which Iraq is experiencing from the imperialist and zionist forces.

SPLA Shells Convoys for Yei; 11 Trucks Destroyed

EA3001172191 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] SPLA [Sudanese People's Liberation Army] supporters and sympathizers in Juba and at general headquarters in Khartoum have successfully sabotaged and grounded an enemy jet bomber that was given a vital mission to provide air support to the Umm al-Amjad [Mother of Glory] and al-'Ankabut [the Spider] convoys now in Lanya to advance to rescue Yei. The 72 hour grounding of the bomber enabled SPLA to mass field artillery on Lanya and for Bright Star Campaign's elite troops to reach the Lanya area.

As a result, the Bright Star Campaign Phase Three forces have conducted in the last 48 hours a heavy and accurate artillery bombardment of these two convoys in Lanya, resulting in the complete destruction of 11 trucks and burning all their loads to ashes, many killed enemy soldiers, and many more wounded. The Bright Star Campaign Phase Three operational commander estimates that the two convoys have now lost more than 60 percent of their ammunition and rations. The convoys have been isolated from Juba and Yei and (Luat) into an excellent killing ground and they will be wiped out.

Ummah Party Voices Support for Mubarak

PM3001145991 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 27 Jan 91 p 7

[Unattributed report: "Ummah Party Affirms Its Appreciation of Mubarak's Stands"]

[Text] The Sudanese Ummah Party has condemned the demonstrations which were staged by the Islamic Front in order to harm Egyptian-Sudanese relations. A statement issued by the party affirms that these relations are too strong to be affected by such subservient behavior. The statement expresses the party's appreciation of President Mubarak's role and stands in support of the Sudanese people's freedom, democracy, and peace. It also praises Egypt's firm stand on the need for the Iraqi forces' complete withdrawal from Kuwait and the restoration of the legitimate Kuwaiti Government. Furthermore, the party reiterates that the statements which are made by certain individuals in the Sudanese military regime only reflect the opinions of these individuals.

Tunisia

President Ben Ali Meets With Yasir 'Arafat

LD3001181891 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] This morning President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali met with Palestinian president Yasir 'Arafat who said after the meeting that he and the president discussed the situation in the Gulf region and the efforts being made at many levels, especially at the Arab Maghreb level, to stop the war and reach a peaceful settlement, not only of the Gulf problem but of the problems of the Arab region as a whole led by the Palestine issue.

The Palestinian president praised President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali's stance which was articulated in his 26 January statement. He said: We are proud of that stance in support of the Palestinian people, the Palestine issue, and the people of Iraq. He added that what was

expressed by the head of state will satisfy the conscience of every Arab.

Abu-Ammar ['Arafat] noted that the aggression against brotherly Iraq was in violation of the UN resolutions. He said that going beyond those resolutions exposed the objectives of the aggression, which is not aimed at the liberation of Kuwait as is claimed, nor serving this or that country's interests, but at striking against Iraqi forces.

The Palestinian president added that international legitimacy is an inseparable whole, and there can be no legitimacy that applies to one place to the exclusion of another. He pointed out that the bombardment of cities, villages, and Palestinian camps in southern Lebanon by Israeli aircraft, artillery, and Navy yesterday further exposed the role played by Israel, not only against Palestine but against the Arab nation as a whole.

Bahrain

Amir Returns From Abroad in 'Good Health'

NC2901113791 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1045 GMT 29 Jan 91

[Excerpt] Manama, 29 Jan (WAKH)—His Excellency Shaykh 'Isa Bin-Salman Al Khalifah, the amir of Bahrain, returned to Manama at noon today from abroad after God granted him the blessing of good health. [passage omitted]

Kuwait

Maghreb States Gulf Crisis Stance Criticized

PM3001165691 London SAWT AL-KUWAYT AL-DUWALI in Arabic 28 Jan 91 p 12

[Muhammad Musa'id al-Salih article: "Just One Step"]

[Text] The legislatures of some Arab states—namely Libya, Tunisia, Morocco, Algeria, and Mauritania, as well as Sudan and Yemen—have met and decided, by a majority, to authorize their governments to request a special Security Council session to demand a cease-fire in the Gulf war, to be followed by negotiations to settle all the issues in dispute in the Middle East region. It is noted that these governments' request to convene a special Security Council session made no reference to the Iraqi leadership's agreement to such a request or to whether these Arab states—which directly or indirectly support the Iraqi invasion—submitted their request to demand a cease-fire on behalf of Iraq, the state concerned. This is significant, especially because Iraqi officials, in their statements, continue to threaten the allied states with inflicting a terrible defeat on their forces, which implies that they are in an advanced position—and a victor does not usually request a cease-fire, either directly or through someone else. Anyhow, if these states are anxious to stop the bloodshed, to protect human lives, and to save Iraq's military capabilities, they can convince Saddam that he is waging a losing war, no matter how long it continues. This is because Iraq is still on the defensive, not the offensive. I say that these states—Iraq's "allies"—can persuade the Iraqi leadership to withdraw from Kuwait. Then the shooting would stop for good, especially because these states' request to convene the Security Council will not be taken up, in view of the permanent member states' opposition. This is in addition to the need for seeking the opinions of the people's assemblies of these seven Arab states before embarking on any step. May God support the endeavor.

Paper Assails 'Jordanian Midget's' Aid to Iraq

PM3001154791 Cairo AL-ANBA' in Arabic 29 Jan 91 p 1

[Editorial: "The Clown"—formerly Kuwait AL-ANBA']

[Text] Just as there was evidence of the [Jordanian] midget king's involvement in the treacherous invasion of Kuwait—an involvement which was not confined to foreknowledge of the invasion but went beyond that to actual participation in planning, assisting, and supporting the invasion—there is now evidence that Husayn Bin-Talal is helping Iraq by hiding the missiles of hatred in his territory. He is hiding them by day to protect them from allied bombing and is moving them across the border into Iraq at night, so that the Baghdad tyrant can fire them on peaceful Saudi towns.

This is how low the Jordanian king has gone in walking political tightropes and displaying two faces: an open face with which he makes false statements denying his involvement in the war alongside his Tikriti master, and a hidden face with which he secretly helps the Iraqi dictator, although he knows more than anyone else that this murderer is breathing his last and approaching his inevitable end.

The Arab world's past and present problems have been caused by rulers like the Jordanian midget who are ready to sacrifice their nation and its vital interests for the sake of preserving their shaky thrones. They think that they can get away with this through cunning, mockery, deception, and jumping from one place to another—as if the Arab world is a circus ring in which they play the role of a clown, climbing ropes and jumping from one to another.

The Jordanian king should know that this time the situation is very different. No matter how skilled he is in walking tightropes, he will soon lose his balance, and the ropes themselves will soon close in tightly around his shaky throne and blow it to pieces. A ruler who loses his credibility with his nation, or who lacks such a credibility in the first place, cannot continue long on the path of deception, especially as his sovereignty is essentially based on absolute opportunism. The Gulf crisis has put an end to the tricks of the chess king; therefore, they no longer deceive anyone. As the saying goes, once bitten, twice shy.

The Baghdad ruler will not be the only one falling into the deep abyss. He is bound to be followed by those who have linked themselves to his bloody policy and aggressive ambitions, thereby marching with falsehood to the end—without any consideration for principle, right, and justice. Kuwait, which does not forget the noble Arabs who stood by it in its tribulation, will also not forget those midget Arabs who got involved with the Iraqi regime in its criminal invasion of its territory, and for their stupid stand against the battle for its liberation. Just as every tyrant is bound to meet his end soon, every agent is also bound to meet his end even sooner.

Saudi Arabia

Egypt's President Mubarak Arrives on Visit

Welcomed by Fahd, Officials

LD3001185191 Riyadh Saudi Arabian Television Network in Arabic 1800 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Excerpt] His Excellency President Muhammad Husni Mubarak of Egypt arrived in Riyadh today on a visit to the Kingdom. King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, the custodian of the two holy mosques, welcomed his excellency on his arrival at King Khalid International Airport. He was also welcomed by His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, crown prince, deputy prime minister and commander of the National Guard, and by His Royal Highness Prince Sultan Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation, and inspector-general. [passage omitted]

Meets With King Fahd

NC3001154991 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1825 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Riyadh, 30 Jan (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak left Riyadh this evening at the end of a brief visit to Saudi Arabia during which he met with the custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd Ibn-'Abd-al-'Aziz of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

The meeting was attended by Crown Prince 'Abdallah Ibn-'Abd-al-'Aziz; Prince Sultan Ibn-'Abd-al-'Aziz, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and aviation; Foreign Minister Sa'ud al-Faysal; and the delegation accompanying President Mubarak.

President Mubarak was received and seen off at the airport by the custodian of the two holy mosques, the crown prince, the defense minister, and the Egyptian ambassador to Saudi Arabia. He left Cairo this morning, accompanied by Mr. Safwat al-Sharif, minister of information, and Mr. Usamah al-Baz, Foreign Ministry first under secretary and director of the president's office for political affairs.

Fahd, Mubarak Give News Conference on Gulf

LD3001211691 Riyadh Saudi Arabian Television Network in Arabic 1921 GMT 30 Jan 91

[News conference with King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud and Egyptian President Husni Mubarak by unidentified Saudi and Egyptian journalists in Riyadh on 30 January—recorded]

[Text] [Journalist] [words indistinct] What are your comments on these talks?

[Fahd] First, the visit of his excellency the president to his second country is not unusual at all and at any time. That is also the case with me; I visit Egypt without announcement. That is something on which I had agreed with his excellency the president. As for the situation we are now in, it is of interest to every loyal Arab, especially the people of Egypt, Syria, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the Gulf states in general, the Islamic countries participating in the fighting, and the African states. All these are in one framework and built upon principles, principles that have been studied, decided upon, and seen to be in the public interest.

On this occasion, I would like to express my utmost gratitude to our friends who did not hesitate when the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia issued its call to the Arab, Islamic, and friendly countries. They all responded. I have previously mentioned the Arab and Islamic countries. I am now saying that our friends in the United States, Britain, and France came forth with the biggest strike force that could possibly be assembled at the present time, whether they are land, air, or naval forces. There are also numerous European and other states that gave all the fleets they could, which we can now see in the Gulf, the Mediterranean, and the Indian Ocean. This is the epitome of friendship among those states, which know that friendship is a continuing process. We do not have to search for the reasons that called forth this deployment. I think the matter is clear: that is, the threats that were carried out against the State of Kuwait. Those threats were reflected in the occupation of our country, Kuwait.

In this occupation, it is now self-evident [words indistinct] as it happened to Kuwait, it was not prepared for an invasion of a part of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and perhaps this part extends to other parts. I think that we all now know that those who wanted to create this problem knew fully that the world rallies at certain defined times—such as is happening now, whether it is from Arab or Islamic states, or from Western states, the United States, Britain, or France, as I mentioned before, and other states. They rallied around justice and legitimacy. If anyone is inclined to deliberately take legitimacy from any country, whether in this country in the Middle East or in Asia or in Africa or any other place, I think that such a view is naive and is not based on any support. The world has developed and has become fully aware that the invasion of one country by another is something categorically rejected by all the international community.

I think it is self-evident who I mean. Regrettably, however, we had very strong relations until the last minute with that state. Those relations became bad on the morning of 2 August.

I am, God willing, sincere when I say that I was surprised to receive information that the State of Kuwait was being attacked. I was dismayed and wondered: Who is attacking the State of Kuwait?

After I ascertained that the attack had come from Iraq, I was astonished and I think his excellency the president and my brother [Mubarak] felt the same astonishment. This is because both of us were living in a feverish

atmosphere which was approaching an explosion. Following the contacts with President Saddam by both his excellency the president [Mubarak] and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, we became almost sure that it was not possible that a military attack could be directed against Kuwait; matters perhaps could be dealt with by way of negotiations and discussion.

Evidence of this lay in the fact that they met in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on Wednesday morning and the opportunity was given to both the Kuwaiti and Iraqi delegations to discuss the matter between them in the hope that they would agree on something. After studying the situation between themselves—we in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia did not interfer, as we were the host country only—they agreed that they would meet in Iraq on Saturday and then if matters were finalized in [words indistinct] and in Iraq, then this would have been something good—this is what we understood—or they would go from Baghdad to Kuwait and study the issue between Kuwait and Iraq in the hope that the matter would reach a desired outcome.

Following Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, I believe that everything came to an end and credibility came to an end. In the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia we found that the invasion of Kuwait did not stop at a specific limit; the invasion of Kuwait is an invasion of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and an invasion of the Gulf states and an invasion of Egypt, Syria, Morocco, as well as all Arab and Islamic countries. As I have already mentioned, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia issued an appeal—we all know that Iraq was at war with Iran for eight years. Iraq acquired an army which enjoyed a very high standard and was well armed.

Things have reached the point where I do not want to say this, but find myself compelled to do so: Who built the Iraqi Army? Or who completed the Iraqi Army, if I want to limit the matter to this? I say that Iraq was incapable of doing it itself; I say that the largest burden fell on the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the State of Kuwait.

I want to clarify some things. The aim of our assistance to Iraq, whether from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia or Kuwait, was not to invade Iran. No, because we knew that Iraq could not invade Iran. It was to strengthen the hands of Iraq so that it would not be invaded by Iran. That is the truth. We offered this aid so that we, Iran, Iraq, and the Gulf states in particular could live in a framework of friendship and love.

Our relations now with Iran are still relations...[hesitates] we have contacts with them, and they have contacts with us. Relations between the two countries, between the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Iran will be resumed at the appropriate time. We hope to consider the events experienced between the two countries, between Iran and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, as bygones that were extraordinary and have ended. Iran is an Islamic state. It is beneficial to Iran and the Gulf states to live within one framework of love and to forget past painful events. It is not unusual for painful events to occur in the world and between states. These are events that occur even within a family in one home. What is painful and what in fact shakes the soul is what Iraq did to Kuwait, its invasion of its second country, Kuwait, which is undoubtedly an invasion of Saudi Arabia. It is also an invasion of the Gulf states, and, of course, whoever invades the Gulf states...esteemed president and people of Egypt, they are a part of us and we are a part of them. Also, Syria is part of us and we are part of it.

Morocco too; His Majesty King Hassan and the Moroccan Army are here on the land of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The same thing applies to the Islamic states that have helped us, as well as the friendly states I have mentioned. The United States gave us the largest force that can be offered to any country in the world. Britain and France have ground, naval, and air forces; many European and South American states gave what they could to the navy. Therefore, the entire world stands by right and by the side of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. The resolve exists that Kuwait will return to normalcy under the leadership of His Highness Amir Jabir and the people of Kuwait—God willing—and this tragedy will end soon, God willing.

We hope that President Saddam will realize that this is over, that reason and not whim should prevail, and that he will begin withdrawing his Army from Kuwait and from near the territory of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. We hope that this will happen, if possible. Withdrawal should be total and unconditional to within Iraqi territory. This does not prevent Saddam from claiming what is right to him, if he wants to discuss it at the Arab or international level. There is the Arab League with its procedures, and there is the United Nations with its laws and procedures, and the International Court of Justice—this is if he has any right; if he has no right, then the correct thing for him is to say enough is enough; we once more hope to hear today or tomorrow that Saddam Husayn has issued his orders to whatever forces he has deployed next to Saudi territory or occupying Kuwait to withdraw to within Iraq.

This is a hope. If this hope can be realized, I think that this will be a very good thing; if it does not materialize, the person responsible should shoulder the result of his actions. I believe that President Saddam now realizes the meaning and the weight of the forces he is facing.

On this occasion, and before I conclude my statement, I address a definite desire to the Iraqi Army and to the people of Iraq to act properly in these circumstances, which are not in Iraq's interest to continue. That is my wish, and I pray to God for success.

Before I conclude this brief statement, I thank his excellency the president for his visit to his second country—this is a long-standing feeling which has existed between the two countries, a feeling which has a history of a glorious past, a history which has renewed in

depth and with conviction this feeling. My brother His Excellency President Muhammad Husni Mubarak. Thank you.

[Reporter] Your Excellency, Mr. President, we have heard during the past two days scattered threats, and we heard such things right at the beginning of the crisis—to strike at the High Dam. Would you please throw light on the background of these threats?

[Mubarak] We are full of sadness and sorrow at what is now happening first of all in the Arab arena. None of us likes fighting or likes war or supports war under any circumstances. When the crisis began—actually on 23 July last year—I felt that there was something in the air. I thought that I would make a move to avert dangers, and as a protection for us as an Arab nation against what might become a theater of fighting and bloodshed among the Arab peoples. I went to Iraq and tried to mediate. I gave the details of this a number of times.

Even after he occupied Kuwait, I spoke a great deal and sent many messages to President Husayn, to the extent that I begged him in every message; I begged him so much to save the Arab nation and to save the Muslims from bloodshed. It got to the point where I told him that I was prepared to go to the end of the world to help you, but only withdraw. Safeguard your people and safeguard your Army, which is the treasure of the Arab nation. It is the civilians—who are the innocent party—what have they done? And the armed forces: what have they done?

If there is a meaning to this operation, we could perhaps say: Never mind. But this is an Arab state. What was occupied was an Arab state. We have tried the impossible—to avert war and fighting. I appealed to him about 27 times to withdraw, so that we could work out a cease-fire. I still say this today. I wish he would give an order to withdraw and begin the withdrawal from Kuwait.

Probably all of us will try to stop the fighting as quickly as possible so that we can avoid bloodshed between the two sides.

The people of Iraq are very much a concern of ours, as are the people of Egypt and the people of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia: They are human beings. We do not want to fight them or want them to fight among themselves. Every time I send him an appeal, however, he responds with a torrent of insults and the kind of words that we have become very much used to. Then the threats began; the threats were at Cairo airport; they began immediately after the Cairo summit. While leaving the summit conference in Cairo, the Iraqi delegation made threats and insults. I do not give that subject any attention. Insult as you like: Insults and threats are the language of the bankrupt.

As you are an Arab, and you talk about Islam, Muslims, principles, and your lineage to the Prophet, may God's prayers and peace be upon him, why this? I think that, given all these Islamic principles and values, we should not threaten each other. Threaten something else and for a good reason. The rumors and threats began, but we are not afraid of them! Threats to strike the Aswan High Dam: by God, welcome! Does the High Dam also have to do with revenge operations?

We want to preserve the people of Iraq, we keep begging him and have only to kiss his hands so that he withdraws from Kuwait and so that we preserve the people of Iraq. Also, we should not forget that the Kuwaitis are a Muslim Arab people; we did not hire them from abroad. They are a Muslim Arab people, and we have Egyptians living with Kuwaitis and the various nationalities there. I imagine that striking the High Dam is a very difficult thing to do.

There were rumors of a missile base in Sudan, that he would strike from Sudan and that he has aircraft for striking from Sudan.

First, striking the High Dam is not an easy matter. He cannot hit it; others tried to threaten the High Dam, but this talk is no good. We are able to punish: Whoever comes near the High Dam will miss, but we will make him pay the price, irrespective of the sacrifice. I was a military man; I am well-experienced in military life, and I know how to work for the protection of my country under whatever circumstances. What are all these threats against the High Dam? Does that mean that you want to cut the resources of peoples? I hope he stops this language of threats and speaks the language of peace, love, brotherhood, and the heavenly religions, not the language of threats, war, fighting, bloodshed, rape, and so on. Frankly, I am sorry and saddened, and we do not care about these threats.

We are used to threats. We do not tremble. We do not care when we hear such talk. Let he who wants to threaten do so. He who wants to do something will shoulder the responsibility. I do not like to threaten; I do not threaten—but he who does something to me will bear the consequence. If he enters my country, I will not let him do what he likes, no matter who he is.

[Reporter] Question for His Majesty King Fahd: The military operations since the outbreak of the war show that Saddam Husayn has transformed Iraq into a huge military arsenal with the monies from the Gulf—the aim behind this military arsenal cannot be merely the invasion of Kuwait and threatening Saudi Arabia. The initiative of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to bring the allied forces to protect its border deprived Saddam Husayn of the opportunity to go further to unknown limits. What is your majesty's comment on this?

[Fahd] I mentioned that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia gave Iraq large sums of money. Iraq built the Army we now see confronting us. I never thought as an Arab that this Army, after the agreement between Iraq and Iran, would be directed against those who were kind to it. A short while ago I mentioned also that some people interpreted our stand by Iraq as being against Iran, but I as an official would like to state that it was not against

Iran but with Iraq, so that Iraq would survive. I and others realize that Iraq could not possibly occupy Iran. I would like to explain further: Before the battle began between Iraq and Iran, I was in Baghdad. President Saddam was talking to me; he told me that [words indistinct] *the military forces along the Iraq-Iran border.*

This is what he said—that every now and then it was trying to harm Iraqi border guards. My answer was that that was a natural thing which could always happen to border guards in any country, but it did not mean that this was important or was meant to carry out aggression against Iraq. That is what I said to President Saddam Husayn; that is what we talked about. After that, he said that two bombs had been thrown at Baghdad University, and it had been proved that the Iranians were behind the incidents. My reply was: Why do you blame the Iranians unless you have proof? There was no evidence. The bombs could have come from anywhere. I said explosions could happen in any country in the world. I said to President Saddam: My advice—and I am not a military man, but experience has given me some good ideas—is that it is not in Iraq's interest to enter into fighting with Iran.

The fighting, which lasted eight years, was to the death; towns and villages were razed to the ground; many were killed—the number of those killed or severely wounded is estimated at more than 3 million. Thousands of billions of dollars were spent by both countries. What happened in the end? After the occupation of Kuwait by Iraq, President Saddam gave up everything he acquired and everything he retrieved from Iran within minutes; he restored the 1975 accord.

All right, this concerns Iraq, in which I do not interfere. If Iraq finds out that it has lost its way and wants after that to correct the situation between it and Iran, then it is Iraq's right to do so; it is also Iran's right to do so. But how can I interpret its aggression against Kuwait? First, when the aggression against Kuwait took place, I regarded it as an aggression against the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, as well as aggression against freedom and the Islamic faith—we are all Muslim countries. I would like to repeat: when the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia helped Iraq, the aim was not that Iraq should triumph over Iran, because we knew that it would not triumph over Iran, but to safeguard the existence of Iraq.

This is frank talk, which I say precisely. Time continued as day follows night. What did the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia do throughout the eight years? I think there is not one of us who has not heard what Saddam has said about the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. What were the countless phrases he said as praise, whether in official letters or telegrams or on Baghdad radio?

What did Saddam say about me personally? In any event, it does not worry me if he said something or did not say it. It is his actions that count first: adherence to the Islamic faith and love for one's homeland and his brother Muslims and friends anywhere else. This is the place where one should concentrate his concern; however, this is said just to provide explanation.

Have we been mean to Iraq? I think the answer is no. The last thing we did was to take part in the rebuilding of Basra and al-Faw. I was the first one to be pleased when the Iran-Iraq problem came to an end. That was because it was a problem which was very near us. All these long years, by Saddam's aggression against Kuwait, have gone as if they never existed. Therefore, the matter was premeditated.

Because of our good nature, we are not prepared, when we discharge our duty toward any Arab, Islamic, or friendly state, to ascertain if that state would turn against us or not. If we can do a good deed, we do it with pleasure and good heart.

What has happened today? Look at what has happened. Could anyone believe that Iraq would invade Kuwait? Could anyone believe that thousands of tanks, scores of thousands, or rather hundreds of thousands of soldiers would be deployed along the border of the Saudi Arabian kingdom? Nobody can prevent or criticize the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia if it declares that that it wants Arab and Muslim forces and forces from friendly states to support the Saudi forces.

I believe that this does not shame the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia—never; but it is self-defense. I repeat that we announced this request because we are the ones who built the Iraqi Army, we built it with our money, and they built it with their youths. Saddam cannot deny this, because the figures speak for themselves. Is this the reward for Kuwait, which contributed to this building, and is this the reward for the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia? I think the answer is known to everyone.

I was not affected when Saddam made the offer to Iran and made concessions to it on everything. So let it be, this concerns Iraq, not the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. This concerns the Iraqi people.

We now face a fact and request upon which all world states of the world—Arab, African, Asian, European, and American—have unanimously agreed, and Iraq was given enough opportunity.

I think Iraq cannot admit that it completely missed an opportunity when the world leaders at all levels said: What is meant is not the occupation of Iraq, but the withdrawal of Iraq from Kuwait without any restriction or condition, and that Kuwait return to its normal life. I think this is logical. Why did Saddam not adopt this logic? This logic is still valid and is now being repeated by all world leaders. Why does Saddam not withdraw today or tomorrow? Why does he accept forcing all these forces, which want peace and want to impose peace either by peaceful means or forcibly? Why does Saddam not announce his withdrawal, ending this problem?

I agree, as his excellency the president mentioned, that the Iraqi people are an Arab people and that the Iraqi

Army is an Arab army. Does anybody want Arab to fight Arab? I think this is completely detestable. It is not the fault of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, however, and it is not the fault of Egypt or Syria or Morocco or the friendly and Islamic states which rushed to help Kuwait and make Kuwait return to normalcy under the leadership of its amir and its government and to repel danger from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

I believe—although I took a long time—that I have perhaps covered the question. Thank you.

[Announcer] On a question on the future of events in the Gulf in the aftermath of the operation of the liberation of Kuwait, the custodian of the two holy mosques said:

[Fahd] No one but God Almighty knows the future. But I am not a pessimist. There is an unexpected event; if this unexpected event vanishes and ends in a way that convinces all the states of the world which have participated in the removal of this mistake, I believe that matters must return to normal, to their natural state, and end in a peaceful and pleasant way. We all hear now the official statements, the latest of which came last night from the U.S. President to the effect that once these conditions in this region are over, all the forces which had come to this region in order to remove the mistakes which had happened there would withdraw. I believe this is sufficient when the head of a state—the biggest state in the world now—speaks. He does not speak in vain; rather he speaks out of logic, reason, and thinking. I believe this is the truth.

[Announcer] On a question on the aggressor's firing of his missiles on populated areas, the custodian of the two holy mosques answered:

[Fahd] The question is indeed well founded and is totally appropriate and rightly timed. At any moment we could hear that a missile was launched. I had hoped Saddam would not do such a thing. There are armies now facing each other; but when a missile is launched, does it have a guide which guides it to the place wanted by Saddam? I believe not. When a missile is launched, it is launched on a city or a village, and it falls anywhere. It kills men, old and young, children and women. I believe this is an inhuman act which is illogical and unacceptable. Fortunately, we have antiballistic missiles; but chance could allow any missile to escape these missiles and hit a certain place, a place crowded with people of various ages and sex, and so on. I wish that such missiles were not launched; but can I say: Saddam, do not launch your missiles against the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia? Thank you.

[Announcer] On Egyptian-Saudi relations, the custodian of the two holy mosques said:

[Fahd] You, brother, have asked the question dearest to me. The history of Egypt's relationship with Saudi Arabia is well known. It is a relationship that never changes. Although there have been periods known to all of us—I regard that as stagnation—relations return to what they used to be.

Now, however, they are at the highest level. I am not saying this because my dear brother, one of the dearest persons to me, is beside me. By God, no! I am not saying this because there are Egyptian notables in front of me now. No; I say it because it is the truth. Our relationship with Egypt is eternal, and anything we and Egypt can do together now will only be for the good. We have always acted in the interests of our peoples, that is the Egyptian and the Saudi peoples, and for the good of the remaining Arab countries. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia... and I am talking about myself personally, when I had the fortune of meeting his excellency the president, when we used to be of the same rank: he was the deputy of President al-Sadat, may God have mercy on his soul, and I was the deputy of His Majesty King Khalid.

Circumstances have decreed that we meet at this moment when each of us is responsible for his homeland before God and then before our citizens. I believe that President Husni Mubarak and myself as his brother are doing the impossible in making the peoples of Egypt and Saudi Arabia happy in pleasant ways, benevolently and without exaggeration. It is possible for me personally to do everything with his excellency the president, or the Saudi people with the Egyptian people. This is pleasant to our souls, and since I had the fortune of knowning his excellency the president, we—he and I—have been pushing these relations forward. I hope that we succeed in bringing relations between the two countries to the highest levels. Thank you.

[Announcer] On a question by one of the journalists concerning the Consultative Council in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the custodian of the two holy mosques said:

[Fahd] This is indeed a well-founded question. Consultation is not a strange thing to be created by me, for instance, or others. God Almighty has ordered the believers to consult among themselves in many honorable Koranic verses. So did his messenger and the wise caliphs after him. We in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, brother, have a special nature and it is known. God has put us at the service of Islam, the Muslims, the Ka'abah, noble Mecca, the place where inspiration descended and where the message was set out, and the Prophet's mosque and Medina. When I say that we in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia adopt the consultation system, this means that we have adopted a thing permitted by God's book and permitted by the wise caliphs. This is not an objection from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia: each state has its regulations, and each organises its affairs in accordance with its interests, but we in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia are convinced that the consultation system covers all issues: people consult among themselves; the state relies on men it consults regarding the interests of the state; it relies on people with specializations, knowledge, and understanding of the Islamic creed, and it relies on

men who know external relations, whether commercial or political. Consultation is what you want to consult about. Even now elected and appointed legislative councils are in fact concerned with consultation.

Every council has a chairman. When the chairman has something, he submits it for discussion. For example, now you see Egypt—I always watch Egyptian television [words indistinct]; it is consultation, but you can call it what you like; it makes no difference what you call it. Once more I say that I believe every Muslim is convinced that the method of consultation that the Koran stipulates and which is followed by the Muslim imams is the best. When we in this holy country insist on consultation—which does not mean dictatorship—it means consultation and taking guidance of a sound view. This is what it means. I would like to say to my brother—the questioner—that this is what we have now in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

There is no government department without consultative councils. The thing that will be done, God willing—and we hope soon; the current events took us by surprise, but we are proceeding—is that councils will be set up comprising the best citizens as far as thought, knowledge, and Islamic ideology are concerned and as far as international affairs are concerned; it is known that this country would be eyed quite differently should it depart from the framework of Islamic ideology, one way or another; I belive all Muslims everywhere will place the biggest responsiblity on us for that. This does not mean that a Muslim country will permit matters which contravene Islamic ideology, but the responsiblity and the general outlook will differ. When you and I are outside the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, for example, we direct ourselves toward the Ka'bah. This means that we direct ourselves in the direction of the house of God. This means that this country—its government and people—devoted efforts toward carrying out all necessary work to the best of their ability to make this country clean, safe, and assured to welcome all Muslims from everywhere.

Naturally, I am one of the officials who has been following what has happened in Egypt during the era of his excellency the president in terms of genuine legislative matters, and his excellency the president has been giving total freedom to those who want to discuss matters. This is a true democracy which you can call democracy. I do not say this because his excellency the president is sitting beside me. But God made us meet here.

I know Egypt's statesmen. I say that Egypt has men of genius, and among them there are many who are good and who are wise and who are blessed in all spheres. I say this because I have had a great relationship with the people of Egypt ever since I was a minister of education. I have many friends and many acquaintances in Egypt. I think I have convinced the questioner about the meaning of the consultative council.

Mubarak Departs

LD3001185891 Riyadh Saudi Arabian Television Network in Arabic 1800 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Excerpts] King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, the custodian of the two holy mosques, and His Excellency President Muhammad Husni Mubarak of Egypt held a meeting at the Royal Court in the al-Yamama Palace this afternoon. [passage omitted]

President Muhammad Husni Mubarak of Egypt left Riyadh this evening after a short visit to the Kingdom. [passage omitted]

Allied Joint Forces Issue Communique No. 13

LD3001192291 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1800 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Military Communique No. 13 issued by the command of the joint forces and the theater of operations in Riyadh on 30 January 1991.

[Excerpt] Riyadh, 30 Jan (SPA)—[passage omitted] Limited numbers of enemy mechanized vehicles infiltrated the border village of al-Khafji, and its population was evacuated. Our forces destroyed five tanks and captured 21 enemy forces.

This presence is being dealt with, and the situation is under complete control. Skirmishes took place with enemy forces last night at three different points on the border and continued until dawn today, during which the enemy suffered huge losses of men and equipment. Limited losses were incurred by the U.S. Marines and the joint forces.

The number of sorties carried out by the joint air forces since the beginning of the Operation Desert Storm reached well over 30,000 sorties, including well over 1,900 sorties carried out by our Air Force.

The Bahrain Air Force carried out 44 sorties and the Kuwaiti Air Force 182 sorties.

Yesterday, a group of U.S. A-10 and Harrier aircraft, and French and British Jaguar aircraft in the joint forces attacked and destroyed a military convoy consisting of 24 tanks, armored cars, troop carriers, and supplies, which was discovered by an airplane while crossing the desert. There were no losses in the joint forces.

On the other hand, during the past 24 hours, 16 sea mines were detected, of which seven were blown up by our naval forces, two by the U.S. Navy, and one by the British Navy. The remaining six mines are being dealt with.

Yesterday evening, A-6 planes from the U.S. naval forces bombed four enemy patrol boats near the island of Bubiyan. Three of the boats were destroyed.

Planes of the same type also attacked three other boats near the island of Umm Qasr. One of them was sunk, and the other two were destroyed.

On the other hand, a group of enemy dinghies opened fire on U.S. Navy helicopters near the island of 'Umm al-Maradim; six to eight of the boats were sunk by helicopters and A-6 aircraft.

'Successful' Italian Tornado Mission Reported

AU2801203291 Paris AFP in English 2012 GMT 28 Jan 91

[Text] Rome, Jan 28 (AFP)—Italian Tornado warplanes carried out a "successful" mission in Iraq on Monday [28 January] and returned without any losses, the Defence Ministry said .

"A great number" of air raids were carried out against Iraqi Scud missile launchers, the elite Republican Guard, control centers, air defence sites, and supply lines, according to a ministry spokesman.

Supply lines to Iraqi ground forces had been hit but the forces were still "able to carry out offensive action", he added.

French Planes Attack Iraqi 'Dug-In Units'

LD3001114191 Paris Domestic Service in French 1100 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] There were further raids by French planes on Iraq this morning. All the aircraft returned to base. From Riyadh, here is Serge Martin.

[Begin Martin recording] There have been more raids, but the objective remains the same for French air forces based at al-Ahsa in Saudi Arabia. Several patrols of Jaguars and Mirage F1-CRs carried out two raids this morning on dug-in units of the Iraqi Republican Guard near the Kuwaiti border. These two raids took place between 0830 and 0930 Paris time. The Mirage 2000's once again took part in these missions, giving air cover and fighter protection in the enemy zone. According to the communique which has just been given to us by the staff headquarters of the Daguet operation, the missions were accomplished. All the planes returned to base safely. [end recording]

Qatar Force Joins Al-Khafji Battle; Tank Damaged

NC3001193891 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1923 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Doha, 30 Jan (WAKH)—A Qatari force joined the Saudi forces and the U.S. Marine force in confronting the Iraqi force that crossed the Saudi border and entered the town of al-Khafji near the Kuwaiti border this morning.

A responsible source at the Qatari Armed Forces General Command said this force managed to destroy three Iraqi tanks and capture 10 personnel of the hostile force.

The source told the QATARI NEWS AGENCY that our losses in the operation were as follows:

Personnel: Zero.

Equipment: One tank was put out of commission.

The source added that our forces, together with the Saudi forces and the U.S. Marine force, are still besieging the hostile force.

Wind Direction Change Halts Oil Movement South

LD3001142691 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] The oil slick formed a week ago in the Gulf waters off the Kuwaiti coast has stopped moving south due to a change in the wind direction last night. An informed source in Manama said that the oil slick stopped moving toward Bahrain because the direction of wind changed by around 180 degrees from south to north.

Yemen

Foreign Minister on Diplomatic Moves, 'Threats'

NC3001162391 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Telephone interview with Foreign Minister 'Abd-al-Karim al-Iryani by unidentified reporter; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] Your Excellency, it was reported recently that Yemen will move on the international scene to hold contacts on the war in the Gulf. What is the substance of this move?

[Al-Iryani] Thank you very much. There can be no doubt that over the last few days the war has taken a very serious turn. The forces waging this war against Iraq did not hesitate to strike at civilian facilities and to inflict very serious damage on economic installations in brotherly Iraq. This indicates that the hidden objective is greater than the declared objectives. This has greatly upset the Yemeni leadership. Something, therefore, had to be done. Of course, such a move would be aimed at stopping this war and starting serious and sincere negotiations to resolve the crisis in the Gulf and all the problems that make our region a hotbed of chronic conflicts.

[Reporter] Dr. al-Iryani, is there a specific Yemeni initiative?

[Al-Iryani] So far we are only holding consultations. There is nothing new in our country's views on the reaching of comprehensive solutions and the establishment of a just peace in the region.

[Reporter] With which international parties will Yemen hold consultations?

[Al-Iryani] Contacts will be held with some Islamic states, as well as Yugoslavia, which is the current

chairman of the Nonaligned Movement; with India, which is a member of the UN Security Council and plays an important role in the Nonaligned Movement; and with China, which is a permanent member of the UN Security Council.

[Reporter] Your Excellency, what is your comment on the obstruction of the efforts exerted by some Arab states, including Yemen, to hold an official session at the UN Security Council?

[Al-Iryani] This indicates the seriousness of the unfolding objectives; it shows that the aim is the destruction of Iraq and its installations.

[Reporter] Your Excellency, some members of the coalition recently uttered threats against Yemen. What is your comment on these threats?

[Al-Iryani] We pay no attention to any emotional words, which are a sign of imbalance and a deficiency in the nervous system of those who say such things.

[Reporter] Your Excellency Dr. 'Abd-al-Karim al-Iryani, foreign minister of Yemen, thank you.

Religious Scholars Conference Reviews Gulf War

EA3001104891 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 29 Jan 91

[Text] A conference of the Association of Yemeni 'Ulema [religious scholars] to discuss America's tyrannical aggression on the fraternal Iraqi people opened at the Shawkani hall today. The conference was attended by Brother al-Qadi Muhammad Isma'il al-Hajji, deputy chairman of the council of high court judges, and a number of brother members of the economic council and deputies. The proceedings opened with a Koran reading by [name indistinct]. Subsequently, a number of speeches were made by the brother honorable ulema giving details of developments in the Gulf and the Arabian peninsula, stressing in this respect that the vicious attack being launched by the United States and its allies against the Iraqi people is nothing but a feverish [word indistinct] against the Arab and Islamic world.

Condemns U.S. 'Aggression'

EA3101101091 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Brother Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, chairman of the Presidential Council, accompanied by Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, deputy chairman of the Presidential Council, Brothers Salim Salih Muhammad and 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, members of the Presidential Council, and Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, chairman of the Council of Ministers, have attended the final session of the conference of the Association of Yemeni 'Ulema.

The session began its work with verses of the Koran, recited by Brother al-Qadi 'Ali Nasir [last name indistinct]. Then brother Al-Qadi Muhammad Isma'il al-Hajji, deputy chairman of the Supreme Judicial Council, made a speech in which he welcomed the brother chairman and his deputy. He said: In the name of this group, which worked for unity, like others—the unity which is regarded by the people as tantamount to the body's spirit—we declare that this conference has been held by the scholars so that they may contribute as much as possible toward an explanation to humanity of the onslaught facing the brotherly people of Iraq. In his speech, he asked all peace-loving forces to strive to halt the war now going on in the Gulf, to spare the blood of Muslims.

Brother scholars 'Abdallah Muhammad al-Haddad, Muhammad al-Muta, Ahmad Jubarah, 'Abd al-Jabbar al-Hashash, (Yahya Lutf al-Huthayl), (Muhammad Ahmad al-Madhkur), (Hasan al-Ghitar), and Muhammad Aqil al-Iryani also made speeches in which they expressed their condemnation of the savage aggression to which the Muslim Arab people in brotherly Iraq are being exposed by the aggressive American forces and their allies. They affirmed that this aggression is tantamount to an aggression against the Islamic and Muslim countries and that it aims at destroying the capabilities of the Arab and Islamic nations, plundering their resources, and threatening their interests and independence.

They called on scholars of Islam and all Muslims to confront this savage onslaught. They condemned the American aggression and that of its allies against brotherly Iraq, and their devastating raids on peaceful, civilian, and defenseless people, namely women, children, and old people, as part of the aerial bombardment, the likes of which has not occurred in the history of wars and battles, which confirms that an evil malice has rallied and stood as one bloc against [word indistinct] Muslim people in Iraq [words indistinct] that you will hear, God willing, in our subsequent bulletins this evening.

The conferees emerged with a statement. It says: The war being launched by the United States and its allies against the brotherly Iraqi people is an unjust war and Muslims must support Iraq with their souls, money, and blood, and with all possible means, in order to confront this iniquitous aggression.

The conferees called on all the states participating in the military alliance to withdraw their forces. The conference appeals to the Islamic states bordering Iraq, headed by the Islamic Republic of Iran, to open their borders with Iraq and permit the passage of foodstuffs and medical and military [as heard] requisites for the Iraqi people. It urged the Islamic governments participating in the alliance against Iraq to withdraw their forces and their support for the American aggression and to hold advance consultations with senior Muslim scholars as a preliminary step toward holding an international Islamic

conference through which the existing problems and the manner of solving them will be studied, as well as ways of unifying the efforts of the scholars to confront the enemy, through which Islamic issues will be solved and an Islamic court of justice established.

The conference appealed to the aggressive states and those supporting the aggression to comply with the demands of their peoples to halt the war. It asks Arab and Muslim rulers to recognize the measure of the dangers surrounding them and to strive to unify their ranks, to unite, and discard the causes of disagreement.

The conference praises the efforts exerted by the political leadership to contain the crisis before the outbreak of the war, and its firm stands toward Arab and Islamic issues, which confirm Yemen's independence and keep it from the dangers of subordination. The scholars of Yemen confirm their stand with the political leadership in order to fulfill the truth, establish justice, and support the oppressed.

Baghdad Radio Airs Saddam Interview With CNN

NC3001210791 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1905 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Interview with President Saddam Husayn by CNN correspondent Peter Arnett in Baghdad on 28 January—recorded; Saddam speaks in Arabic with combined passage-by-passage and superimposed translation into English; Arnett speaks in English with combined passage-by-passage and superimposed translation into Arabic—processed from the Arabic]

[Text] [Arnett] Mr. President Saddam Husayn, I came to this meeting [words indistinct] U.S. attacks on [words indistinct] the raids against your country, Iraq, [words indistinct] they say that they (?are winning) the first round. What do you say to this?

[Saddam] We say that light emerges from darkness. Whenever the U.S. Administration expects that it is covering Baghdad with darkness, (?it will face) the light inside some [word indistinct] the Iraqi people, whether [words indistinct] based on deep belief in the one God. What matters as far as we are concerned is that the darkness (?brought) by the U.S. Administration should not infiltrate hearts and minds [words indistinct] has no place in Iraq. You see that [words indistinct] were talking about it before the aggression took place. [Words indistinct] the U.S. Administration [words indistinct] saying that they are winning the first round. [Words indistinct] this for the American people, because [word indistinct] the American people [word indistinct] do not forget what they heard 10 days ago, that is [words indistinct].

So we leave the assessment to the people of the United States, all free nations in the world, and to you too, on whether they have actually won in the first round, or whether disgrace befell them the moment they decided to make this decision. We believe that they have been defeated by simply signing their decision, because they signed an unjust decision. The days and weeks have come—we are now in the second week—and the day-to-day details of the developments will emerge to show the defeat they will bear. Winning and losing does not hinge on winning or losing a battle quickly, because winning depends on gaining the satisfaction of the one and only God and the hearts of the people. Have they won God's satisfaction and have they won the hearts of people through their resolutions? This is the criteria we follow.

[Arnett] [words indistinct] Iraq was not affected or harmed [words indistinct] in the same way it has been harmed this time. Therefore, how do you evaluate [word indistinct]?

[Saddam] [word indistinct] our people have never been as pure in their spirits as they are now. Our Armed Forces have never been as determined throughout the history [passage indistinct].

[Arnett] A large number of Iraqi planes are now [words indistinct] Iranian airports [words indistinct].

[Saddam] Regardless of the figures which you hear (?and which we know), what is important is that Iraq and Iran are two Muslim neighboring countries. Regardless of *past circumstances, these ties [words indistinct]* relations between the two countries. Since the battle is now between faith and infidelity, between right and wrong, between treachery and honesty, between justice and fairness and oppression and [words indistinct] and aggression, then do not expect that there will be Muslim countries which are not with us in this battle. Naturally, when (?some of Iraq's) planes find they have to land in this or that Islamic country, they will do so in that spirit and in such a [word indistinct].

[Arnett] But will these planes [words indistinct] in this war? Will they return to Iraq [words indistinct]?

[Saddam] In all cases, we respect the laws and will of (?Iran).

[Arnett] Can these planes return [words indistinct]?

[Saddam] [passage indistinct]

[Arnett] The other issue now is [words indistinct] Iraq claims that the bombing of the Iraqi tankers caused this [words indistinct]. But the United States says the Iraqi officials opened the oil [words indistinct] in Kuwait and let it flow uninterruptedly into the Gulf. Was this the case?

[Saddam] It is a fact that the United States hit a number of tankers which were loaded with oil. This is a fact. The Western media did not deny this fact. As the United States did not deny this, it must have then been aware that these tankers were loaded with oil. [words indistinct] the United States attacked some oil installations. This is also a fact which was not denied by the United States. Therefore, the United States is concerned neither about preventing an oil spill in this or that place—whether on land or in the sea—nor about the negative effects [passage indistinct]. When it does so, the United States [passage indistinct] within the framework of legitimate self-defense [words indistinct]. Therefore, if the military field commanders view the use of oil as part of the right to self-defense and defending the homeland in one particular place or another, be it in the form of setting ablaze the trenches which are filled with oil, or in any other form, then such commanders will have the right to do so. Thus, this is the picture now in [words indistinct].

[Arnett] Are you saying that [words indistinct] oil into the Gulf was a military maneuver?

[Saddam] I have said that the United States has used oil, (?unrefined oil) [words indistinct]. The indisputable fact is that the United States has hit oil tankers full of oil. It knew that they were full of oil and it knew that when this oil spills into the waters it causes damage. When these tankers were hit, they were in Iraq's territorial waters.

The United States also hit the oil pipelines and announced this publicly. It hit the loading platforms. These platforms are in Iraq's territorial waters. U.S. experts know that when they hit loading platforms and destroy the oil pipelines in these platforms, an oil slick forms. [words indistinct] in Iraq's territorial waters. *[words indistinct] if the Iraqis use oil for defensive* purposes, even if they use it to [words indistinct], then they are justified in doing so. It is certain that the future will show that the United States is responsible for this.

[Arnett] Then what you are saying, Mr. President, is that you reserve the right to use [word indistinct] oil as a military weapon [words indistinct]?

[Saddam] I said what I have said [words indistinct].

[Arnett] The issue of American prisoners [words indistinct] and allied forces, and the use of prisoners of war as human shields in installations and this [words indistinct]? And why? Is this actually what happened and will it continue?

[Saddam] What we announced was an official declaration. But are there people in the West who can still talk about ethics and law? Take this example [words indistinct]: Do you remember what [words indistinct] about the foreigners whom Iraq prevented from traveling in an attempt to prevent the outbreak of war? Do you remember what was said about our decision? It was described as immoral, illegal, and inhuman. The West was bragging about its humanity, and some Western rulers were pretending that [word indistinct] such allegations to people who had not yet discovered them fully. Do you remember this? Do you know what they are doing now, those same (?Westerners) who were criticizing our decisions? Do you know that they are beating the students who went to study in the West? They are being detained, and the decision to detain them is made public. Do you know the restrictions imposed on the Americans of Arab origin, on the Iraqis, and on the Maghreb people who hold various citizenships throughout the West in a number of Western countries? A number of Arabs, previously holding Arab citizenships, [words indistinct] Western countries. Nevertheless, harsh restrictions were imposed on them after the war, and this is against the laws in those countries, including your country, the United States. Is this not a double standard? Do you notice that the double standards of the West have appeared after only 10 days. Do you see how much of the West's defects we have exposed in such a short time?

Rest assured that we feel that you in the West need our (?steadfastness) and rejection of this arrogance which comes out from your leaders. We feel that the human inside you, that your humanity as Americans, as citizens, and your humanity as French and British people in the West needs our position to reject hegemony and double standards more than it needs the decision of hegemony and double standards that emerges from those [word indistinct]. We need to expose double standards. The world needs someone to tell the one who carries the biggest stick in the world that the stick which you carry in your hand cannot destroy the house of God, and it cannot destroy the humanity of human beings. This is what you need in the West. You do not need the many women, children, and old people your planes kill in Iraq. This is because we are people and people do not need (?this.) But Bush, or the devil inside Bush, needs this.

[Arnett] But you have said that [words indistinct] does not comply with the use of those prisoners of war [words indistinct]?

[Saddam] [words indistinct] the Iraqi students [words indistinct]. Therefore, these double standards (?prevail) now in the states that call themselves [words indistinct] in the world, which ask the small states—which they call the Third World countries—to apply the laws, but consider themselves above the law.

[Arnett] We believe that you visited the battlefront more than once [words indistinct]. Can you tell us about the situation of the battlefront now?

[Saddam] The men with deep faith there are firm in their determination. I believe Bush knows this. They believe they will not be defeated [words indistinct] told you in the United States that they came here to kick the Iraqi Army out of Kuwait? Have you (?decided) now that you can do so tomorrow? [words indistinct] I do not wish to insult anybody, I merely wish to tell you according to the dictionary, a person who does not tell the truth is a liar. The fact is that the Iraqi Army is in Kuwait. It is unfortunate that you, the Americans, believed that the aggression would be launched against the Army. No attack has been launched against our Armed Forces in our 19th governorate [Kuwait]; they started the attacks on Baghdad. They did not start their attacks on the military forces but on our security and economic installations. We must remember [words indistinct] that the White House media definitely portrayed this as a destruction of Iraqi nuclear power [words indistinct].

As an American, has it not become clear to you now that the battle that has taken place is not for the sake of Kuwait but falls within a wider (?framework)? They are the same reasons that lead the U.S. Administration to [words indistinct] to conspire against Iraq before 2 August.

The U.S. Administration insists on preventing [word indistinct] and food from arriving in Iraq [words indistinct]. The same reasons the U.S. Administration adopted the slogan of boycotting Iraq technologically and in matters of security [words indistinct]. Unfortunately, the ordinary U.S. citizen could not absorb the meaning of all the measures taken by the U.S. Administration against Iraq before the events of (?2 August) to reach the same conclusion that we reached before that date. Therefore, Bush was able to lie to the American people. However, we will help you unmask the liars. We

have the facts. [words indistinct] cannot deny. He began [words indistinct] in scientific and economic circles and not [words indistinct].

[Arnett] The military experts of the U.S. and allied forces say that they can destroy [words indistinct] and that they do not need a ground invasion. If such a ground action is needed, it would be just a matter of cleaning up the remnants of Iraqi Forces. If that was true, how could the Iraqi Forces withstand that massive [word indistinct] that the allied forces can bring to bear?

[Saddam] That is what we said and what we warned of before the war started.

You may remember their statements at that time. The statement [word indistinct] says that [words indistinct] a matter of 24 hours. [words indistinct] a man should not give advice in which he does not believe. It seems that (?Husni) is evidence that the Arab man [word indistinct] what one wants. You may recall that some spoke about a matter of 72 hours. Regardless of all that [words indistinct] (?that is why we were frank) in revealing the facts. We said that our people will never accept [words indistinct]. We said that only dialogue leads to solutions that may spare mankind wars. We said that war will not be a matter or days or hours. In all cases, when war breaks out the bloodshed is considerable. We said that we did not want war. We have no interest in involving any world leader in war. [passage indistinct]

Do you think that the pilots who came to bomb targets [passage indistinct]. When the time comes for you to receive the bodies of your sons, you will know (?whether this is true). I asked those who (?saw) them [words indistinct] do you not feel any remorse when you commit such an act? They said: Yes, we feel that. [words indistinct] Some of them were in bad shape. I hate to go into that.

[Words indistinct] (?If I talk now about those men fighting for Bush) you will see that everyone of them is proud of what he is doing to defend his country and the values it represents. Some of them were in positions on which bombs fell like rain, but not a single Iraqi left [words indistinct] the U.S. planes. This was particularly true the first day, the second, the third, and the fourth. From these examples you may predict the outcome of the duel on the ground, if the aggressive armies attack our valiant men in the 19th governorate. What remains is one question dealing with how matters were before 2 August and after 2 August, until the night of (?the attack). [words indistinct] all this massive hostile power. [words indistinct] How will it be? These people will triumph [words indistinct].

[Arnett] [words indistinct]

[Saddam] [words indistinct] We are talking with people, not with the U.S. President. I am speaking with you as a citizen now. I am speaking about the honest dialogue with people, not with the aggressors. [words indistinct] But the evil ones will shoulder the responsibility [words indistinct]. I am speaking about human laws that should govern the relationships among people.

[Arnett] What do you say to the people around the world today [words indistinct] a peaceful solution to the crisis [words indistinct]?

[Saddam] This question should be addressed to Bush by you, the American people. Bush used the dialogue as a tactic. You know that we are the ones who proposed dialogue. [words indistinct] He then appeared on television suddenly to say that he wants dialogue. We immediately discovered that he had decided on war. His new talk about dialogue is only a cover to say to those who say to him that he has not exhausted the path of dialogue (?that he has held dialogue and they did not respond). All that we have said from 2 August until now has been achieved. [words indistinct] you remember (?when we said) that keeping the foreigners and not allowing them to travel would prevent the war. (?Do you remember) what the charlatan Western diplomats said?

They used to say that it is keeping the Westerners and preventing them from travelling that will lead to war and that Westerners' travel will not bring about the war. And now [words indistinct] the subject [words indistinct] is something of the past. We do not regret a decision because we make decisions only when we are convinced. However, if we had kept the 5,000 Westerners and Japanese in Iraq, would Bush have struck at Baghdad?

When we allowed the Westerners to travel, we were not scared. We made that decision. We were not intimidated by threats from anyone, and this is proven by [words indistinct] because we fear no one. We made the decision out of respect for the opinions of simple citizens rather than those of politicians. [word indistinct] cards are not confused and colors are not mixed by such people. We decided to allow all travel so that our battle may not involve a blurred vision or confused cards. However, I referred to this for a reason—to prove to you that certain Western politicians are playing the game of double standards with us [words indistinct] and not the game of [word indistinct] truthful men.

[Arnett] [words indistinct]

[Saddam] Anyway, the war is going on. Is it [word indistinct] to talk about ground [word indistinct]. The war is going on. Now, what [words indistinct]. Has Bush gained victory? I believe that he was defeated at the same moment he signed the decision to wage war. [words indistinct] America [words indistinct].

If I were in your place, I would certainly be ashamed. I am confident that every American now feels ashamed inside himself. And as the war goes on, the shame will turn into pain, and the pain will turn into a revolution against those who deceived them. The American is a human being. [words indistinct] These are the values of the superpower, America. These are the values about which spoke [words indistinct]. He crosses the Atlantic Ocean, the oceans, the seas to attack a nation of 18

million. Do you feel now that you are still a superpower? Do you feel that you are a superpower [words indistinct]? The president of the superpower boasts about attacking a nation of 18 million. These are the factors that makes the [U.S.] Administration internally defeated. The moment it signed the war decision it was defeated. This makes America retreat from the position of a superpower.

[Arnett] [words indistinct]

[Saddam] God knows how long will it take. [words indistinct] The Iraqis will fight in a way that will be admired by the human side of the American personality.

Much blood will be shed. Much blood has been shed. Certainly the officials who decided to carry out the aggression do not ask how many Iraqis will be martyred in this aggression. I was following their statements before the hostile military action. None of the senior officials were very concerned that no Arab or Iraqi blood should be shed. They used to deceive their parliaments by telling them that there will be no casualties among the Americans or that if there are casualties, there will not be too many. They also said that there will be no British and French casualties and that if there are casualties, there will be very few. However, when we say that much blood will be shed, we mean French, English, and American blood—naturally, Saudi citizens, the people, [words indistinct]—all those taking part in the fighting, but not Iraqi blood.

Do not be deceived by deceitful politicians and let them present the battle to you piecemeal, speaking first of an air battle and after that telling you to accept this and to wait for the ground battle to take place. War is war. War has begun, and you must count the days, weeks, and months for them. Always ask them: Did you not say that the war will last only a few days? Therefore you have miscalculated, just as you miscalculated before.

[Arnett] You have unconventional weapons like [words indistinct] chemical weapons. Will you use chemical weapons in a land war in Kuwait?

[Saddam] We will use weapons that match those used by our enemy against us. I believe that you have had experience with us now.

I believe that you have now (?found out) that we have done everything we have said.

[Arnett] The multinational forces said they will not use chemical weapons against you. Does that mean if they do not use them, you do not use them?

[Saddam] I said: We will use the weapons that are equivalent to the weapons used against us. In any case, and under any circumstances we will never relinquish (?Iraq). [words indistinct] Iraq's border extends from Zakho to the sea.

[Arnett] [words indistinct]

[Saddam] All the forces raiding Baghdad now are Israel. [words indistinct] because Zionism played in the corridors of the White House and pushed you to this [word indistinct]. Why did America adopt a decision to prevent food from the Americans five months before the 2 August events [words indistinct]. This is the battle of Zionism, but Zionism is fighting us with your blood. If Zionism does not use its weapons now, it wants to keep them so that (?it will have the upper hand when the war comes to an end). [passage indistinct]

[Arnett] [words indistinct]

[Saddam] The major claim is that [words indistinct]. Certainly [word indistinct] Iraqis now—and they are 18 million—[words indistinct] to fight indefinitely until they gain victory. [passage indistinct] I knew [words indistinct] [laughs]

[Arnett] [words indistinct] it has a chemical warhead [words indistinct] Saudi Arabia.

[Saddam] It can carry nuclear, chemical, and biological warheads.

[Arnett] [words indistinct] conventional explosives in your missiles so far.

[Saddam] I have said that we use the weapons which match those used by the opposite side. We are people who [words indistinct] the values [word indistinct]. [word indistinct] in difficult circumstances, everyone remembers the values of his ancestors. Despite all that air superiority we were not shaken. We did not [word indistinct] from the [word indistinct] of balanced conduct. [words indistinct] use conventional warheads.

[Arnett] Do you foresee the occasion when you will use unconventional warheads in your missiles? [words indistinct]

[Saddam] We hope there will be no [words indistinct]. We hope we will not be forced to [words indistinct].

[Arnett] [words indistinct] your [word indistinct] missile system [words indistinct]. Can you give us any information about the destruction that your nuclear facility has undergone in the [word indistinct]

[Saddam] Do you believe that this is possible? These things [words indistinct] the Americans are now imposing restrictions on you and on news of the [word indistinct] in Saudi Arabia. And they impose [word indistinct] details [words indistinct] on the course of military operations. And this happens in the country of democracy, as they call it in America. Do you want a dictatorship, as you call Iraq, to make such a vital admission? What counts is that the Iraqi man is full of faith. He has faith and is full of self-confidence. He is convinced every hour—with every hour of the fighting he is more convinced, through additional factors, that right is on his side. What they destroy [words indistinct] a strong, faithful, and living people who can give what is more [words indistinct]. No one will donate anything to us to make up for all that has been and will be

destroyed. We built that with sleepless nights, patience, perseverance, and sincerity in work. And when we the Iraqis [words indistinct]. When the Iraqis say we, they mean the citizens, not the leadership.

[Arnett] You described [words indistinct] as the mother of battles [words indistinct]. Do you have any doubt whatsoever that you will win?

[Saddam] Not even one percent. [words indistinct] when we called it the mother of battles [words indistinct]. We believe that God is on our side. Is there a greater battle than the battle in which the commander is God on one side and Satan on the other side?

See for yourself, America, the superpower; Great Britain—I mention the names which you use to describe these countries—and France, the major power. All the major powers [words indistinct] against Iraq. [passage indistinct]

[Arnett] [words indistinct]

[Saddam] [words indistinct] You tell the Americans that we wish them well.

We hope that none of their sons will die. All Iraqis feel gratitude to all good Americans who demonstrate in the United States against the war and to all good and honorable citizens in France, Germany, Spain, Italy, and everywhere else. We are attentively following this noble level of humanity that opposes the hostile policy that is being made in the corridors influenced by criminal Zionism. All Iraqis, including the children in Iraqi hospitals who have been injured by the bombs dropped on them, are following this attentively. We will continue to distinguish between the evil decision of administrations influenced by Zionism and the stance adopted by [words indistinct]. Just as we make a pledge to God, our people, the sons of our nation, we also make a pledge to good people in America, Europe, Japan, the USSR, and everywhere else in the world—in the countries described as developed and those called Third World countries—that we will not forget the good people who will discover day after day that they are right when they (?criticize) the injustice being done to our people and [words indistinct].

I am pleased to have met with you. Thank you for having listened with an open mind.

[Arnett] [words indistinct] Thank you.

Military Statements Summarize Situation

Raids Counted, Targets Claimed

NC3001172091 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1704 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Unscheduled statement by military spokesman]

[Text] We have just received the following: A military spokesman has stated the following: In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

Further to the Armed Forces General Command Communique No. 30 issued this morning, the U.S.-Zionist enemy resumed its air attacks on our country from Saudi and Turkish territory. The enemy, furthermore, carried out an air raid across our eastern borders. At the time this statement was prepared, the number of these raids on our country and formations deployed along our international borders had reached 76 air raids and two missiles.

Our heroic ground and air defenses intercepted the enemy aircraft and missiles and managed to shoot down three air targets—aircraft and missiles.

Blessed be our air and ground defenses' brave men, and praise be to God for his victory.

[Dated] 13 Rajab 1411 Hegira, corresponding to 30 January 1991

One Plane Said Downed, Another Hit

NC3001211591 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 2058 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. At 1400 today, a number of hostile planes attempted to raid the residential areas in our beloved Iraq. Our heroic eagles in our planes confronted the hostile aircraft. In an aerial combat in which our eagles showed their skill, boldness, and courage—and the arenas of fighting bear witness to this—one of the hostile planes was downed. Another one was hit while the remaining planes fled from Iraq's eagles. God save the eagles. More painful blows to our country's enemies. The days of this epic will record eternal deeds and rare heroism for our eagles. God's imminent victory is our date.

[Dated] 30 January

'10 Air Targets' Said Downed 31 Jan

NC3101111291 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following: In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The U.S.-Zionist enemy continued its air raids on our country, carrying out 45 air raids last night and this morning. The enemy also fired a number of missiles.

Our air and ground defenses intercepted the enemy's aircraft and missiles, and with God's help they were able to shoot down 10 air targets, both planes and missiles.

[Dated] 31 January

Reportage, Commentary on Al-Khafji Offensive

Action 'Omen' of Coming Storm

NC3101110291 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0840 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Baghdad, 31 Jan (INA)—AL-THAWRAH has described the Iraqi forces' entry into the coastal town of al-Khafji as the beginning and omen of the thundering storm that will blow on the Arabian desert.

In its editorial today, the newspaper says that with this operation Iraq has been able to pinch the initative from the eyes of Bush and the evil clique he leads. It adds: Iraq has begun to change the directions and courses of the showdown by using the factors and components of its strength and capability and its superiority on the ground and in the field of close combat between the ground forces according to accurate calculations.

AL-THAWRAH stresses with its forces's entry into al-Khafji, Iraq has taken the initiative in opening the pages of the showdown at the time and place it decides so that the mother of battles will assume all its dimensions and the aggressors and invaders will suffer the defeats they deserve.

AL-THAWRAH warns: If Bush still dreams of crushing Iraq's will and the group of believers it is leading by using technology and exploiting the so-called air and missile superiority, he must be prepared from now on to receive the surprises which will drive him crazy.

It adds: Bush will discover that illusions and trespassing on historical and geographical facts and human principles will push him to defeat.

'Manifest Victory' Hailed

NC3101120291 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1037 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Baghdad, 31 Jan (INA)—AL-JUMHURIYAH hails the great victory which the faithful soldiers of right achieved over the forces of atheism and evil in al-Khafji, thus recording the first field victory in the blessed mother of battles.

In an editorial today, the paper says that the faithful soldiers stormed the positions of atheism and the infidels, executing a lightning land offensive under the banner of God is great and entered the coastal city of al-Khafji at midnight the night before the last. God granted them a manifest victory before which the forces of evil collapsed.

The paper adds that if the horde of despised evil ones had deluded themselves that their vengeful and spiteful air strikes would directly affect the faithful soldiers' level of preparedness for battle, then the achievement of the soldiers of right on the land front drives a big stone into the mouths of the despised evil ones and demonstrates to them the courage, steadfastness, and patience of the sons of Iraq.

The paper emphasizes that the storming of al-Khafji by the soldiers of right is another aspect of the decisive Iraqi response. It adds that this aspect of the response adds further battlefield facts to the achievement of the ground defense forces. These facts expose the claims of the infidels and the absurdities repeated by their media regarding the illustrious facts embodied by the front of the faithful multitude that is properly balanced by its leadership, Army, and people.

Battle Called 'First Warning'

NC3101123891 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 0915 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Unattributed talk]

[Text] The faithful men are the hand of the honorable Arabs, who carry the banner which says God is great. The faithful men can defeat the oppressing majority despite its tyranny and its attack on innocent people, including women, children, and old men. The faithful men are the army of Arab power and the army of the group of Muslim believers and all the honest people of the world who have denounced the U.S.-imperialist aggression against Iraq. The faithful men are a sword which will tear apart Bush's arrogance and shatter the dreams of the despicable traitor Fahd, the buried Croesus [the amir of Kuwait], and all the criminal infidels.

The faithful men are vanguards in the battlefield, where the mettle of valiant men who have engaged in battles is tested. The faithful men are the touchstone of the combat conditions and the balm which will completely purge the sacred land in Najd and Hejaz [Saudi Arabia] from the occupying invaders and the corrupt hirelings, with God's help and with the resolve of struggling leader Sadddam Husayn.

The faithful men are the thunderbolt of all the Arabs and the army of righteousness. They advance, storm, and crush the army of infidels, oppressors, hegemony, and world arrogance. Thus, the faithful men have breached the front of the U.S. forces and penetrated it until they reached the coastal town of al-Khafji at midnight, when the banner of God is great illuminated the Arabian desert.

Thus, the first signs of dawn on 30 January have begun to illuminate the battlefield on the ground, giving hope to all Arabs, honest people in the world, and believers, who have patiently waited for this showdown with faith that Iraq knows how and when to deal a painful blow to the crowd of infidels, to shatter their despicable alliance, to embarrass their propaganda trumpets [words indistinct].

It is a first warning from the faithful men in Iraq to all the U.S. occupiers that they will leave with their dead in bags and coffins after we warned them to leave in peace and safety.

However, criminal Bush did not take our advice. Traitor Fahd and misfit Husni, allies in humiliation and treason, did not learn a lesson when the al-Husayn missiles reached the bases of aggression in Dhahran as a just warning that punishment would be meted out to the infidels and the financiers of their crimes.

Yes, leave the land of Najd and Hejaz before your armies become food for birds of prey and corpses blown up by the desert wind. Leave without regret. The faithful men acted not because they covet al-Khafji or any inch of the land of Najd and Hejaz but so that the valiant Iraqi Army will tell the whole world that we are ready for battle, that we deter aggression, and purge the land. Relationships with the people of the peninsula are nobler than any gain. May God preserve the Muslim leader Saddam Husayn and the group of believers.

Communique Praises Forces

NC3101132891 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1223 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Communique No. 32 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 31 January]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. O great people, O faithful heroes of our valiant Armed Forces. O faithful ones who are strong in your faith wherever you are in the ranks of Muslims. O people who are working for the sake of goodness, love, and peace. Bush, this age's Satan, stood to speak before the U.S. House of Representatives and the Senate about the outcome of the treachery and murder by using technology fired from afar.

Despite the fact that fighting is not the sole means of demonstrating the well-known civilized qualities of our people, their national qualities and humanity, and their faith in the one God, we found ourselves forced to defend these values against the vicious onslaught of God's enemies of the alliance of shame and dishonor.

Bush tried to avoid a meeting of men face to face, one on one, and substituted for such confrontation technology that fires from afar. He deluded himself that he would achieve his hostile objectives. However, the men of faith, chivalry, and honor in the Iraq of glory and heroism would not allow Bush and Fahd to fail to understand the truth about their meager value which is the quality of every infidel, traitor, and ungrateful person.

The men of our ground forces, both infantry and armor, with their support weapons pounced on their forces which had been subjected to their satanic orders in carrying out the aggression. In a matter of a few hours, the legions of right and virtue entered the city of al-Khafji. After some of the enemy were killed, some fled to save the souls which had been intended to be wasted with no honorable aim. In addition, a number of male and female U.S. conscripts were captured along with others from the forces who are allied with them in evil.

On the night of 30 January, last night, the defeated ones tried to launch a counteroffensive against the Muhammad al-Qasim mujahidin forces and the heroic forces affiliated with them. The valiant men confronted them with their unerring fire after God, may He be praised, reinforced them with his blessing. Those who were killed died accursed and went to burn in the fire of hell for eternity and others were captured. Thanks to God for His manifest victory.

O valiant men in our Armed Forces, the successful battle with the enemy in the al-Khafji area and the successful obstruction of the enemy's counteroffensive will always be remembered as the gate to victory, God willing, and the gate to thwarting the will of devil in the face of the will of the faithful who rely on the will of God Almighty, the all powerful.

Victory will be yours, for your nation and for the fraternal people in the Arabian Peninsula who are afflicted by this fight with their Iraqi brothers by the betrayer of the two holy mosques.

O lofty men, this ground battle will be the prelude to the liberation of the tomb of Prophet Muhammad, may God's prayers and peace be upon him, from the occupation. It will also be the prelude to the great vital step after 17 January to liberate Palestine, the Golan, and Lebanon, and to liberate the faithful sons of our nation. God is great. God is great. God is great. Accursed be the lowly.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command

[Dated] 14 Rajab 1411 Hegira, corresponding to 31 January 1991

'Secret Deal' Said Struck With Iran on Aircraft

LD3101122691 Zagreb Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1200 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] There has been a leak in Turkey of a secret deal between Iran and Iraq, involving refuge to at least 200 Iraqi aircraft in Iran and how to divide the Middle East following the war, TANJUG's Ankara correspondent reports.

Basra's 'Key' Sites Receive 'Substantial Damage'

LD3101105191 Tehran IRNA in English 1018 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Khorramshahr, Khuzestan prov., Jan. 31, IRNA—Iraq's southeastern port-city of Basra is still the target of aeriel and missile attacks of the U.S.-led multinational forces. Basra's key installations such as its petrochemical complex have reportedly sustained substantial damage. The multi-national air forces targetted several points of Basra with missiles and bombs on Thursday. Reports of casualties or damage were not available.

Baghdad Alleges U.S. Forces Fire at Moroccans

NC3101084891 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 0802 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] The American forces stationed in the lands of Najd and Hejaz [Saudi Arabia] have opened fire at the Moroccan forces deployed there. As a result of the shooting, several Moroccan soldiers were killed and others wounded. This American measure was taken because a large number of the Moroccan Armed Forces in the lands of Najd and Hejaz have refused to particpate in the military operations against Iraq.

Eyewitness Confirms U.S. MiG Shootdown 29 Jan

LD3001121291 Tehran IRNA in English 1030 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Khorramshahr, Khuzestan Prov., Jan. 30, IRNA—An Iraqi jet fighter crashed in Southern Iraq following a dogfight with the U.S.-led allied forces' planes Tuesday, an eyewitness told IRNA here Wednesday morning.

Jabbar 'Ali, a resident of this port-city added that he saw the plane crash inside Iraq near the Iranian border.

Diplomats Said Refusing To Return to Baghdad

PM3101105391 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 30 Jan 91 pp 1-4

[Ibrahim Nawwar report: "Al-Mashshat Seeks Asylum in Vienna"]

[Excerpts] London, AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT—Muhammad Sadiq al-Mashshat, Iraqi ambassador to the United States, has sought political asylum in Austria. At his press conference yesterday Austrian Foreign Minister Alois Mock did not deny that report. He confirmed that an Iraqi diplomat sought asylum in Austria and urged the need to maintain secrecy concerning information about that diplomat in order to protect him and his interests.

Al-Mashshat left the U.S. capital last week, heading for Baghdad. But instead of traveling to Baghdad or any of the points where Iraqi diplomats gather in Tunis, Amman, or Tehran, he headed for the Austrian capital, Vienna, saying that he wanted to "seek medical treatment for his wife for a dangerous disease."

His residence period terminated two days ago, so he submitted a new application to extend it as a political refugee. [passage omitted]

Meanwhile, AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT has learned that a number of Iraqi diplomats have refused to return to Baghdad despite Saddam Husayn's call for them. Among these ambassadors is Ambassador 'Afif al-Rawi, former chairman of the Iraqi Agricultural Authority and Iraqi's ambassador to Australia. Nabil Nasir, Iraqi press attache in Argentina, has also refused to return to Baghdad. [passage omitted]

'Opposition Radio:' Baghdad Security Men Killed

LD2901132891 Tehran IRNA in English 1232 GMT 29 Jan 91

[Text] Mahabad (W. Azerbaijan), Jan. 29, IRNA—Unidentified gunmen attacked several vehicles of the Iraqi security forces in Baghdad concurrently with the bombardment of the city by the allied forces on January 20, an Iraqi opposition radio reported Monday night.

The radio said several Iraqi security officers were killed and wounded during the attack. It did not elaborate.

Radio Urges Army, People To Topple Saddam

LD3101105591 (Clandestine) Voice of Free Iraq in Arabic 1500 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Excerpts] Honorable sons of our army; you the gallant people who care; you the people who come to the rescue, and who always meet expectations; you glorious people. [passage omitted]

We call on your care, your honor, and your trust. Please help us get rid of Saddam, [words indistinct] his second war. God is with you.

Leaders Comment on Joint U.S.-Soviet Statement

Shamir Reaction

TA3001232691 Jerusalem Voice of Israel and IDF Radio Network in Hebrew 2205 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Reacting to the joint statement issued by the Soviet foreign minister and the U.S. secretary of state, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said today that Israel has ideas for the continuation of the peace process after the Gulf war ends. Our correspondent Gil Litman asked Mr. Shamir whether he believes that the two superpowers intend to propose a new peace initiative for the Middle East.

[Begin recording] [Shamir] I do not know what we will be offered, but I believe that our decision will ultimately determine matters.

[Litman] Does the Israeli Government intend to come up with a new initiative?

[Shamir] The Israeli Government has plans and proposals, and their time will come at the end of the war.

[Litman] Sir, I assume that you saw Saddam Husayn on television last night. He seemed relaxed and quite self-confident. Is that your impression, too?

[Shamir] I did not see him. Let us all hope to see his downfall very soon.

[Litman] The prime minister also said that the United States and the Soviet Union did not consult Israel before they declared that they would make efforts to settle the Israeli-Arab conflict at the conclusion of the Gulf crisis. The prime minister added: I am sorry about this. [end recording]

Levi Comments

TA3001162291 Tel Aviv Educational Television Network in Hebrew 1500 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Interview with Foreign Minister David Levi in the Jerusalem studio by Rafi Reshef—live]

[Text] [Reshef] Foreign Minister David Levi has just arrived in our Jerusalem studio. Good evening, sir.

[Levi] Good evening.

[Reshef] Did you receive an official announcement regarding the joint U.S.-Soviet statement?

[Levi] So far, there has been an official announcement by the White House that there has been no change in U.S. policy and in the goals declared by President Bush regarding Saddam Husayn's aggression or any linkage [last word in English here and elsewhere in the interview] between that aggression and the Palestinian problem.

[Reshef] Do you accept that clarification, and from your viewpoint is the issue over?

[Levi] I think we should accept what was said and we have nothing to search for beyond the Presidential announcement.

[Reshef] In short, you do not see any reason to be affronted or think there has been any change in nuances or any need for concern about the possibility of being dragged into a linkage. You are relaxed about it, right?

[Levi] There is no linkage. The U.S. position was also presented to us in writing today by the State Department on behalf of the secretary of state himself, and it must be taken at face value. Ask me what will happen after the Gulf crisis. Well, whoever thinks that things will remain stuck might regard it as good news. I do not think it is good news. We must make sure that there is no linkage after this crisis and that there is activity in which we are the focus in order to finally reach peace in the Middle East.

[Reshef] What you are really saying is: I am even prepared to encourage a U.S.-Soviet initiative when the Gulf crisis ends.

[Levi] No, no. I would ask you not to make assumptions, certainly not when I am talking to you and the viewers. Israel has a position, which is basically accepted, for the new era we all would like to see arrive in our area. There is no peace without direct negotiations. Whoever is not prepared to sit with Israel to talk peace certainly does not intend to make peace. In the new era all the other elements must shake off the conservative positions they have taken up to now, including the Arab states' refusal to recognize the right to talk with Israel.

[Reshef] Mr. Levi, are you sure that formula will stand up to the test of reality and be acceptable to the superpowers after the Gulf crisis is over?

[Levi] To a large extent, it depends on what we do. I believe that by not doing anything at present we are making a large contribution, first to ourselves and second to the destruction of Saddam Husayn's arsenal. That does not mean it will go on for long and under all conditions, but I believe we are behaving correctly.

[Reshef] What do you expect us to do afterward?

[Levi] Patience. In the political sphere, we are preparing, we are fixing our own signposts and will stand firm on them. We should not hold ourselves in disdain.

[Reshef] You called for patience, but I would nevertheless ask you to tell us about one practical step which differs from the policy and which could advance a solution to the Middle East crisis.

[Levi] First, Secretary Baker accepts the principle that it must be decided that there will be no more wars, that this is the last war. Today, most Arab states are dependent on the United States and the West; they can no longer play West off against East, there is no longer the blackmail we witnessed in the past which led to terrible competition to supply arms to this area which in turn led to wars. The

United States must stress that. Second, to demand from the Arab states direct negotiations with Israel. Third, that direct negotiations take place simultaneously with negotiations with the Palestinian residents of Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip. It is now clear that the PLO, in fact, did us a great service and showed its real face. The olive branch fell from its hand to reveal the grenade, and its true terrorist concept was disclosed in its declaration of solidarity with Saddam Husayn. I heard the same things from Frenchmen yesterday. There has been a wisening up which we can exploit for our own good.

[Reshef] Permit me one question, Mr. Levi, about the current Gulf crisis. Defense Minister Moshe Arens said here yesterday that the missile threat would be lifted from Israel within a month. Do you support that evaluation?

[Levi] I try to understand that differently from the way it is being explained. He surely thought that if the war does not end within a month then there is a problem. But that does not mean there is some line that Israel fixed for itself, such as a month of absorbing missiles or a month in which we will do nothing, and that after a month we will do something. We are studying the situation from all angles. The right to defend ourselves, as we have previously discussed, is not only legal, but will be implemented when called for and when all aspects have been studied. Israel will do what it must.

[Reshef] I am not sure I understand your clarification. Are you in fact saying that the threshold of patience is about one month, or did I not understand you properly?

[Levi] No, no. There are those who say that. It is not that I do not understand you, it is just that I do not want to understand you. Therefore, if you did not understand the defense minister, then you also do not understand my clarification. I believe the defense minister did not mean that we have decided to absorb the current situation for another month. Under no circumstances do I believe that this is what he meant.

'Door Is Open' for Positive Action

TA3101120691 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] The director general of the Prime Minister's Office, Yosi Ben-Aharon, does not think the United States bought Soviet moderation in the Baltic states at Israel's expense. In an interview with Jack Katzenell, Ben-Aharon said Israel will not agree to an international conference even after the Gulf war, but there would be no need for the United States to put pressure on Israel for progress on the Palestinian issue, he said, as Israel itself was interested in such progress.

[Begin recording] [Ben-Aharon] Our door is open and has been open since the beginning of the establishment of our state to any kind of positive action with the goal of achieving a peace process that would lead to accommodation and coexistence with our Arab neighbors. The problem, the question, is just how to go about doing it.

[Katzenell] You do not think that the United States achieved moderation on the part of the Soviets with respect to their own Baltic states—like to withdraw their paratroopers and to reduce the level of confrontation with Latvia and Estonia—at Israel's expense?

[Ben-Aharon] There may have been a deal here between the two superpowers, and of course we would not like to be a victim of any kind of deal of this nature. And we also, as Prime Minister Shamir said, would like to be, at the minimum, consulted by the United States, our friend and ally, before such a statement is made in the United States in conjunction with the Soviet Union, and therefore we see that there has been an unnecessary juxtaposition of the Gulf issue with the Arab-Israeli issue, which we consider totally unnecessary. We hope that we will not be facing such unnecessary situations and surprises in the future. [end recording]

Prime Minister Discusses Gulf Developments

Views Gulf War Prospects

LD3001205391 Paris Antenne-2 Television Network in French 1900 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Report on interview with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by correspondent Charles Enderlin—place, date not given]

[Text] Yitzhaq Shamir has given us a long interview. He spoke to our correspondent Charles Enderlin and asserted for the first time that Israel will not retaliate in case of a new Iraqi attack. Listen to him:

[Begin recording] [Shamir] I must say that we take these threats seriously, and we are ready for all possibilities. I hope that nothing will happen, but we are ready.

[Enderlin] Saddam also specifically mentioned nuclear and biological weapons, not just chemical weapons.

[Shamir] Yes, I know; we know this. We have our information regarding all these things, and we are ready.

[Enderlin] Is Israel ready to eliminate this threat? Did you discuss this with the Americans?

[Shamir] We always discuss with the Americans anything going on in the region, and of course Saddam Husayn's rhetoric is among the issues we discuss with the Americans.

[Endelin] Would such an escalation be extremely serious for Israel?

[Shamir] All this aggression is very serious. I hope that we will see this person defeated as soon as possible. Then, after this defeat, we would be able to do the history and analysis of what would have happened. There is now

a very big and strong coalition, (?an anti-Iraq) coalition, for which we hope a clear and quick victory.

[Enderlin] Without the participation of Israel?

[Shamir] It is a pity. We undoubtedly want to take part in it. It is a question of aggression against us. We do not participate because the Arab partners, the Arab members of this coalition, are against this participation. We do not want to damage this coalition, and that is why we are now out of it; but I believe the coalition will win.

[Enderlin] What about after the problem of Iraq? In a few weeks this war will have ended. The Middle East will have moved toward a new order. There will be new agreements. Will Israel take part in these agreements?

[Shamir] Yes, we have our projects, you know, and we think that after the defeat of this person and after the end of fierce violence, terrorism, and cruelty, all those who followed this dictator will be disappointed. Then we will be able to discuss things in a more reasonable way with the Arabs of the region; and if they are more reasonable, we will have more chances to reach some agreements. This is my hope.

[Enderlin] Should Israel conclude a peace treaty with Iraq at the end of this war, according to you?

[Shamir] Which Iraq? I think Iraq will be liberated from this regime, then we will be able to dicuss things with Iraq. [end recording]

Criticizes German Arms Policy

LD3001190791 Berlin ADN in German 1803 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Bonn (ADN)—Israeli Prime Minister Shamir has expressed his wish to fight alongside the allies. "We would gladly take part in the coalition because we do not want others to defend us. We want to fight, and we are looking for ways to do so in coordination with the leader of the coalition, the United States," he said in an interview to be published in tomorrow's edition of the newspaper DIE WELT. By way of reservation he added: "We do not want to undertake anything that puts the coalition at risk. We are interested in it's being victorious. We are, therefore, in a dilemma and are suffering because of this." Shamir described Saddam Husayn's latest threat that the missiles directed at Israel and other countries could also carry chemical and nuclear warheads as "for the moment just one of his crazy ideas."

Shamir criticized the "industrial establishment" in Germany, which, he said, is very powerful. It also has influence on the government and the entire political sphere. Moreover, the industrialists are heavily export-oriented. "Exporting is, so to speak, the sacred principle. When they are tempted, they cannot resist. In fulfillment of Saddam Husayn's wishes they saw an outstanding opportunity to earn a lot of money, to sell technology and also to further develop technologies. The purchaser—in this case Saddam Husayn—also bore the research and development costs." For part of industry, this was the decisive factor.

Asked whether the German Government has made sufficient effort to prevent illegal trade with Iraq, Shamir said he does not believe that the German Government "is involved in or has supported" such cooperation, but it has not been strong enough to prevent the deals. Shamir said he does not expect any lasting disruption of German-Israeli relations because of the export of technology to Iraq. But he does hope that the government and the parties in Germany will "really recognize the consequences" from the experience, and he has the feeling that this is happening.

Satisfaction Over Promise of German Military Aid

TA3001155591 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 30 Jan 91 pp 1, 4

[Report by Avi Bnayahu and Moti Bassok]

[Text] The defense establishment and the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] have expressed satisfaction with the announcement by the Bonn government about military and defense aid to Israel, the scope of which is unprecedented. Yesterday the German Government announced its decision to supply Israel immediately with additional Patriot batteries, Hawk missile batteries, protection suits against nuclear, biological, and chemical warfare, and special tanks for the detection and identification of chemical warfare materials on the battlefield.

A few days ago the defense establishment sent two senior envoys to conduct talks with Bonn cabinet and security elements in the wake of the general promise of immediate defense and military aid for Israel given by German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher. That promise was given to Defense Minister Moshe Arens and Foreign Minister David Levi during Genscher's visit to Israel last week.

Last night Israeli sources expressed great appreciation for Germany's intention to help Israel. They said that Bonn's decision was in a way an atonement for the shame felt by all Germans when the extent of the German aid to Iraq for its nonconventional warfare developments and production became known. Israeli sources, however, firmly rejected the German claim that all German activities in Iraq have been discontinued. The Jerusalem sources pointed to international reports of 28 January, according to which senior German scientists returned to Iraq's nonconventional and conventional weapons industries after being promised huge salaries and bonuses.

In reply to a question on whether Israel would agree to receive German weapons, a senior General Staff officer said: "We will accept the German Government's gifts. We have had to put up with many unpleasant things in the past month, and we will live with this one, too. The

Germans have offered some very generous help to Israel, which, as a matter of fact, is the least they can do at this time."

In terms of finance, Germany promised Israel—within the framework of what was defined as humanitarian help—the sum of $166 million even before Genscher's visit. In addition, Genscher promised to take action with the EC to obtain a $210 million grant for Israel from a special aid fund the EC had established for countries harmed by the Gulf war. A Bonn committee is looking into Israel's requests for grants and loans for the absorption of immigration from the USSR and Ethiopia and into ways to increase German investment in Israeli industry and research.

Further Reportage on Sari Nusaybah Detention

Issues Declaration, Denies Helping Iraq

TA3001182991 Jerusalem Voice of Israel and IDF Radio Network in Hebrew 1705 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Palestinian leaders convened in East Jerusalem tonight in the wake of Dr. Sari Nusaybah's detention last night for what was called a protest gathering. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports:

Faysal al-Husayni was the star of tonight's news conference. He is, in fact, one of the few leaders in the territories not in prison. He said that Israel has once again used the panacea it always reverts to, that of administrative detention, when it is afraid of peace calls urging a solution of the conflict through political means. We say that the only reason for the detention, al-Husayni said, is Sari Nusaybah's political views, and that he has nothing whatsoever to do with the charges leveled against him in relation to Iraq.

Similar remarks were made by Attorney Jonathan Kuttab, Nusaybah's attorney. He conferred with Nusaybah in jail this afternoon; this evening he read out a declaration written by Nusaybah. Its main points are: I deny working for Iraqi intelligence and gathering information on missiles. I continue to oppose all forms of violence, and I have no ties whatsoever to Iraq. The missile attacks on Israel violate security regulations as well as my political views.

[Begin Kuttab recording in English] I am convinced that my administrative detention has nothing to do with Iraq, with missile attacks, with violations of any security provisions, or any other matter other than my political views on the need for peace and moderation. [end recording]

Kuttab also said in Nusaybah's name: I was under curfew during that entire period.

Turning to something else, leaflet 67 of the Unified National Command of the Uprising was distributed in Judaea and Samaria, or more correctly in East Jerusalem, tonight. It identifies with Iraq completely, blames the United States for igniting the war, and calls on all Arabs to support Iraq. The leaflet appeals to the masses in the coalition to rise against their governments. The leaflet said the war has upset the theory of secure borders and calls for a linkage [preceding word in English] and a peaceful solution to the region. The residents of the territories are called on to oppose Israel's moves by setting up popular committees and defense committees while simultaneously opening a campaign to win over world public opinion.

Appeals Sentence in Court

TA3101114291 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Sari Nusaybah, the Bi'r Zayt professor ordered into six-months administrative detention for allegedly providing military information to the PLO, appeared in the Jerusalem District Court this morning in a hearing to appeal his sentence. The hearing was held in camera, and no details have been made available at this time. Nusaybah has denied the accusations by authorities that he disclosed the exact locations of Iraqi missile landings in Israel.

[Jerusalem Voice of Israel and IDF Radio Network in Hebrew at 1100 GMT on 31 January add that "this morning, the state submitted a request to Vardi Zayler, president of the Jerusalem District Court, to approve the administrative detention of Sari Nusaybah. Nusaybah is a resident of Israel, and therefore his detention requires such approval. Our correspondent 'Ido Shargil reports that a hearing will be held next week on the contents of the confidential material, after which Judge Zayler will rule on whether to continue Nusaybah's detention."]

Editorial Calls for Due Process

TA3101112191 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 31 Jan 91 p B1

[Editorial: "This Is a Matter for Criminal Proceedings, Not Administrative Detention]

[Text] Spying for the enemy is a serious crime. Spying during wartime is an especially grave matter. Espionage activities that are designed to help direct the enemy's fire constitute a crime ten times more severe, even more so when this fire consists of missiles launched at civilian population centers. This is not merely a serious crime; this is the most despicable thing possible.

This is the deed of which Dr. Sari Nusaybah is suspected after, as published yesterday, "evidence had been collected pointing to his involvement in the transfer of security related information, particularly information pertaining to the locations of the Iraqi missile strikes in Israel, to Iraqi intelligence via PLO elements based overseas." If this suspicion is converted into charges being filed, and if Nusaybah is convicted, he will receive the harshest punishment currently supportable under Israeli criminal law.

If this is the charge and that is its required punishment, what does all this have to do with administrative detention? Is it conceivable that someone who directed the Iraqi missiles should go free in six months? The administrative detention clause was definitely not designed for such cases. The deportation of Dr. Sari Nusaybah from Israel—which was hastily demanded yesterday by right-wing Knesset Member Elyaqim Ha'etzni—also does not fit the bill. The suspicions against Nusaybah warrant only one course of action, which is the pressing of criminal charges, with all their ramifications: arrest, investigation, the filing of charges, and a trial. There is not and there cannot be any other way to address these crimes.

The Defense Ministry's spokesman yesterday justified the preference of administrative detention over an ordinary judicial process with the fear that during court proceedings, Nusaybah and his attorney may learn of things that could constitute a danger to state security, such as the security forces' sources of information. Elements in the defense establishment made it clear yesterday that the president of the Jerusalem District Court must examine the legality of the injunction and that Nusaybah, at any rate, has the right to appeal against his detention before the Supreme Court.

Despite the existence of these controls, and despite the logic of the argument that intelligence sources should not be divulged to the defense counsel, it remains unclear why the military establishment has insisted on this problematic procedure. There have been cases in the past—and incidentally in espionage cases—in which part of the evidence and testimony were submitted not only behind closed doors, but also in the absence of the defendant and the defense attorney. Admittedly, this is left to the court's discretion; however, the security forces have no reason to fear that the court would deviate from this custom just now, in the case of Nusaybah and the crimes he is accused of.

By the same token, it is improbable that Sari Nusaybah, one of the most prominent Palestinian leaders in the West Bank, was accused of perpetrating such a serious crime without there being solid evidence justifying these suspicions. If that is indeed the case, these suspicions should be thoroughly investigated. The only way to clarify the matter totally is through the judicial process and not by putting him under administrative detention. This is especially important in the case of a man such as Nusaybah. In several months, after the Iraqi threat is eliminated, we may have to launch negotiations with the Palestinian leadership. Nusaybah will remain one of the most prominent Palestinian figures, even after he is released from administrative detention. We have a right to know whether he indeed played a part in the despicable crime attributed to him.

This and more: Only a judicial process, and not administrative detention, can respond to the allegations voiced both inside Israel and also overseas that the reason behind the arrest was not a grave act of espionage, but rather the government's capitulation to pressures exerted by its right wing. The U.S. reaction criticizing this detention proves that such suspicions exist, and everything must be done to prove them false—especially if those suspected are innocent.

Defense, Palestinian Sources Comment

TA3101101091 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 31 Jan 91 pp A1, 4

[Report by Ori Nir, 'Aqiva Eldar, Eytan Rabin, and Yizhar Be'er]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Washington has asked Israel for more details about the circumstances surrounding the detention of Sari Nusaybah, and Jerusalem expects the U.S. Administration to file an official protest against the detention in the next few days, just as it did following the detentions of Radwan Abu-'Ayyash and Ziyad Abu-Zayyad.

Security sources told our correspondent yesterday that Nusaybah is not only suspected of relaying to Iraqi intelligence information concerning the locations of missile hits, but also of transferring hundreds of thousands of dollars to PLO elements in the territories. According to them, the security services have well-founded evidence to support all the charges against him.

One of the suspicions is that Nusaybah used his fax machine to relay information about the location of the missiles that fell in Israel. The defense elements have Nusaybah's correspondence which, according to them, implicates him in committing security offenses. The sources claim that they have material implicating other Palestinians in relaying security information to PLO elements abroad, but that at this stage there is no intention of detaining them.

[Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew on 31 January carries a related report by Doron Me'iri on page 8 stating that "over the past 24 hours, the security services detained additional Palestinian activists in the territories on suspicion of relaying intelligence material to Iraq."]

A senior defense source said yesterday: "We have no intention of going back on our decision to place Nusaybah under a six-month administrative detention, despite the criticism of this in Israel. The information we have about him is confidential, and we will not release it—to the public or in court—for fear of exposing our sources." The source rejected the criticism voiced yesterday in Israel and the United States. "Everyone will be surprised when some details of the information we have are released over the next few weeks."

Other senior defense sources yesterday expressed their doubts concerning the charges against Nusaybah. They claim that three days ago, Defense Minister Moshe Arens himself disclosed on television that the last missile fell near the village of Dayr Ballut in Samaria. David 'Ivri, Defense Ministry director general, revealed in a live

interview that one of the missiles launched during the second barrage landed near the Tel Aviv Fairgrounds. According to the sources, appearances in the media by the mayors of Ramat Gan and Holon have left no doubt about the locations where other missiles landed.

Palestinian sources said yesterday that Nusaybah was detained because he probably was not sufficiently cautious in his overseas telephone calls; they believe, however, that the information he relayed only followed what was reported in the open media.

They also said that PLO members abroad have recently contacted various Palestinian figures in the territories requesting reports on the damage the missiles caused in Israel. The Palestinian sources expressed anger at the PLO activists abroad. "They show no consideration and unnecessarily put their brethren in the territories at risk. It seems that they want to get us all jailed," a Nabulus Palestinian activist said. [passage omitted]

Three 'Terrorists' Killed, Katyushas Fired Again

TA3101081791 Jerusalem Voice of Israel and IDF Radio Network in Hebrew 0800 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Three terrorists were killed last night in the security zone during a clash with an SLA [South Lebanese Army] patrol. Two SLA soldiers were slightly injured. Our correspondents Menahem Horowitz and Hayim Hecht report that the three terrorists were on their way to carry out an attack on Israel's northern border. The clash occurred approximately four km north of Zar'it. The terrorists, apparently Palestinians, were equipped with flak jackets, grenades, and Kalashnikov rifles.

There was another katyusha attack in the security zone for the second time in less than 48 hours. Sources at the UN headquarters told our correspondent in northern Israel that several katyusha rockets were fired from locations north of the security zone early this morning. The echoes of the explosions were clearly heard in the settlements of the Galilee panhandle. The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] fired back at the sources of the attack.

President Says Iraqi Army Will 'Rapidly Fall Apart'

PA3001162891 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1505 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Jerusalem, 30 Jan (EFE)—Israeli President Hayim Herzog told EFE today that the Iraqi Army will "rapidly fall apart" after the first allied forces ground attack and warned Iraqi President Saddam Husayn "he better think twice" before launching a chemical weapons attack.

During the first interview with a foreign news agency since the beginning of the Persian Gulf war, Herzog added that February is the "decisive" month in determining Saddam Husayn's future. He did not, however, say whether Israel will respond to the Iraqi attacks.

"This is not our war," Herzog said. "There are pressures within the government and the country and I hope that the wishes of the majority will prevail. It is clear, however, that before we respond to an attack we will have to take many things into consideration, for example, not hurting the allied coalition."

Herzog indicated that Israel will have to coordinate things prefectly with the United States before launching a military response to the missiles launched from Baghdad. "We will do nothing before reaching an agreement with the United States," Herzog stressed.

Herzog said that next week will be decisive in determining the future of the war and expressed optimism in a rapid allied victory "if they launch a strong first attack with all they have against the Republican Guard."

"Once those elite forces are broken, the rest of the country will collapse. There are already signs that things are not going well for them, such as the more than 100 Iraqi planes fleeing to Iran and the defection of hundreds of soldiers," Herzog added.

Concerning the Palestinian issue, the Israeli president, who is celebrating the third year of his second term in office, said that to a certain extent, the Palestinian people "are to blame" because they sided with Saddam Husayn in this conflict.

"They do not appreciate what they get out of Israel. More than 120,000 Palestinians work in Jewish cities and now, unfortunately, they are unable to earn any money."

Israeli military authorities maintain the occupied territories, where 1.7 million Palestinians have lived under curfew since the start of the war 13 days ago, although they allow the inhabitants to go out for one hour to purchase food.

Herzog said that "when all the euphoria with Saddam Husayn is over, surely the Palestinian leaders will be more willing to talk to us," and gave his personal opinion that very soon there will be advances toward resolving the Palestine problem.

Herzog recalled, however, that one of the most important problems Israel faces is that it lacks a valid Palestinian interlocutor, and said that the population living in the occupied territories is under the threat of "a gunman—Yasir 'Arafat."

He also said that of the 900 Palestinians who have died since the "Intifadah" began three years ago, about 400 were murdered by the Palestinians themselves.

Concerning Baghdad's threat to use chemical weapons against Israel or Saudi Arabia, Herzog responded: "If we were sure of where they are located, I would agree with a preventive attack, but no one knows exactly where they are."

"The United States and Israel have made it clear to Saddam Husayn that if he uses nonconventional weapons, we will feel free to take whatever action we consider best; therefore, I would advise him to think it over before using them," he said.

The Israeli president cautioned the Western countries and the United States about their lack of knowledge about the Middle East and advised them to pay more attention to Israeli leaders than to the media.

"Unfortunately there are many leaders who are making political decisions by following (American television network) CNN; that is a big mistake because their reports are superficial and do not address the profound reasons that have led to the conflict in this area," said Herzog.

Envoy Views Baker Meeting, U.S. Coordination

TA3101054391 Jerusalem Voice of Israel and IDF Radio Network in Hebrew 0325 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Interview with Zalman Shoval, ambassador to the United States, by 'Oded Ben-'Ami in Washington, "a few minutes ago, after Shoval's meeting with Secretary of State Baker"—recorded]

[Text] [Ben-'Ami] Ambassador Shoval, from your talk with Secretary of State Baker earlier this evening, do you believe that U.S. policy has somewhat changed?

[Shoval] No. In fact, the secretary of state, as well as other speakers who have called me today, emphasized time and again that there is no change whatsoever in U.S. policy on questions of the Israeli-Arab conflict and the peace process. The United States is consistent in its approach. The United States undertakes or promises, in fact, to precoordinate, or rather to inform us in advance of every move or initiative that may be taken. Naturally, we are not to expect any moves before the Gulf crisis is resolved.

[Ben-'Ami] If the Americans are requesting coordination—I understand that was one of the standing requests in the many talks that President Bush has held with Prime Minister Shamir lately—why did the Americans not coordinate this formulation with Israel?

[Shoval] Look, the formulation itself—at least on the questions that concern us directly—does not contain a substantive change, possibly no change at all, from the Helsinki declaration by Gorbachev and Bush in, I believe, September, or from President Bush's speech at the UN General Assembly. In other words, there is no difference in content. The question that may arise concerns the context; that is, why was this statement made now? To this we received explanations, and the State of Israel, as reflected in statements by the prime minister and the foreign minister, put matters in the correct perspective. We do not see a change in substance, but we may wonder why we were not notified in advance. Still, as you could gather from press reports, the Americans have explanations, and it is possible to accept them.

[Ben-'Ami] Have you come from the talks with Secretary Baker with a feeling that coordination will improve, or at least take place, from now on?

[Shoval] Look, I do not want to make such declarations. All I can say, as I have just noted, is that the Americans have made a great effort to convince us that the worst that has happened here was a slip, perhaps not even that, and that in any event, they do not intend to deviate from the practice of advance notice, of informing us ahead of time. We, the State of Israel, naturally hope that this will indeed take place, because this is important for the United States no less than it is for Israel. After all, the Americans understand, and they do not conceal this from us, that it is totally impossible to promote any political initiative in the region without Israel's consent.

[Ben-'Ami] Could you please share with us more of the comments exchanged in your talk with the secretary of state on the Gulf crisis?

[Shoval] We discussed various and extensive issues concerning the Middle East, especially the post-crisis period, which we hope will come soon. As you may well know, the State of Israel and the United States will then try to cooperate, coordinate positions, and examine the different sides' positions on the future of the Middle East. I would say that my talk with the secretary of state on this was only a beginning and it covered a variety of aspects.

[Ben-'Ami] As for the Gulf crisis and the linkage [previous word in English] of this crisis with the Israel-Arab conflict, have you emerged from this talk satisfied with the U.S. policy?

[Shoval] Look, to judge by the experience we have had in recent weeks, I believe that the State of Israel has no room for complaint, because there was no linkage, nor was there any agreement for a linkage. The fact that the two issues are still mentioned almost in a single breath on occasion is an aberration, in our opinion. It is unreasonable, because there is clearly no link between the issues and they should not be mentioned together. As I have said, though, the points included in the joint U.S.-Soviet statement were made for various reasons or needs, as it was explained to me, and those needs may concern the special or unique interests of each of the signatories to the statement, particularly one of them.

[Ben-'Ami] In other words, it is still difficult to appease both Jerusalem and Moscow at the same time. Ambassador Shoval, how was Secretary Baker? How does this man look or feel now, 13 or 14 days after the outbreak of the war?

[Shoval] At least in the conversation with me he was relaxed and very sure about the rightness of the U.S. policy and its results. There were no doubts. I expressed my regret and extended my condolences about the number of casualties the U.S. side, the Marines, suffered

in yesterday's battles. I believe that Secretary Baker entertains no illusions about the possibility of additional casualties, but the Americans are sure, as President Bush's speech to the nation indicated, about the justness of this war and its consequences.

[Ben-'Ami] Ambassador Shoval, thank you very much.

[Shoval] Thank you.

Shomron on U.S. Cooperation, Iraqi Plane Defections

TA3001140791 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 30 Jan 91 pp A1, 2

[Report by 'Imanu'el Rosen]

[Text] "Cooperation and coordination with the United States has improved remarkably. This stems from the fact that the United States has reached the conclusion that it cannot solve the problem of the missile launchers in west Iraq as fast as it wants." This remark was made to MA'ARIV yesterday by Lieutenant General Dan Shomron, chief of the General Staff.

Israel and Washington claim that U.S. operations at the missile sites have improved over the past few days. It seems that additional stationary launchers plus at least three mobile launchers were hit. Nevertheless, in light of the assessment that Saddam Husayn might soon try to launch missiles outfitted with chemical warheads against Israel, the United States might go it alone.

As for the defection of the 100 Iraqi aircraft to Iran, the chief of staff said: "This step may herald an intention by Saddam Husayn to enter into negotiations with the United States soon. This may be a preliminary step just prior to such negotiations, in anticipation of which he decided to save his best aircraft before they are completely destroyed."

One of the reasons for the Iraqi flight is undoubtedly the vast improvement in the U.S. attacks on the aircraft hidden in underground bunkers. The allied forces have hit approximately 20 Iraqi aircraft over the past 24 hours.

A military source has said that Saddam Husayn understands now that the battle is lost and that he is concerned about his future. The source believes that Republican Guard forces may also flee to Iran.

IDF Installing 'Unique Improvements' in Patriot

TA3101060391 Jerusalem Voice of Israel and IDF Radio Network in Hebrew 0500 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] has set up a team to improve the performance of the Patriot missiles. Our correspondent Karmela Menashe reported that senior officers from the Antiaircraft Forces and experts from the defense industries are participating in the effort. The team draws various conclusions after each missile attack and several unique improvements have already been installed in the Patriot systems in Israel.

Ben Elisar on Response to Iraq, Postwar Prospects

PM3001160391 Madrid DIARIO 16 in Spanish 25 Jan 91 p 9

[Interview with Eliyahu Ben-Elisar, Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee chairman, by Vidal Coy in Jerusalem; date not given]

[Text] [Coy] Do you believe that the success of the two Patriot missiles which downed an Iraqi Scud over Haifa will delay the Israeli response to Iraq?

[Ben-Elisar] Our decision to respond was made as soon as the first missile fell on the Israeli population or entered our airspace. Saddam Husayn will see. The Patriots are important, politically, psychologically, and militarily; they will give the population much more confidence, but they change nothing: Saddam Husayn will have to pay for his decision.

[Coy] There is increasing talk of an Israeli commando operation to "punish" Saddam.

[Ben-Elisar] We will not say in advance what we are going to do, but Israel is noted for its imaginative military tradition. I can assure you that we will not keep an appointment arranged by Saddam Husayn, but will meet him at an appointment arranged by ourselves.

[Coy] Would you acknowledge that U.S. efforts to avert an Israeli response have succeeded so far?

[Ben-Elisar] I have not seen those efforts. We are allies and partners, but since we are two independent countries of which one—the United States—also has alliances with Arab countries, our partnership takes into account the U.S. relationship with the Arabs.

[Coy] The Israeli request for $10 million in extra aid has been interpreted as a deal for not responding to Iraq.

[Ben-Elisar] That is ridiculous. Of course we wish to receive U.S. aid. Do you know how much this crisis has cost us already? Egypt has received the cancelation of $7 billion in debt. Have the Egyptians more rights than we, who have always been U.S. allies?

[Coy] Do you believe that the multinational coalition will split if Israel responds to the attacks?

[Ben-Elisar] No, I do not believe that at all, because Saudi Arabia is fighting Iraq for its own survival, so it will continue to fight. Egypt is fighting to maintain its role in the Middle East and will also continue. Syria is fighting because President al-Asad knows that if Iraq continues as before, it will be unable to withstand that enormous power for long.

[Coy] What is your opinion of President Bush's suggestions that particular attention will have to be paid to the Palestinian problem after the war?

[Ben-Elisar] If that is a hint that there will be pressures on Israel to make us do what we do not wish to do, the world is mistaken. Israel will not pay the price for Iraq's aggression against Kuwait. Is that clear?

[Coy] That is, you disagree with convening an international peace conference on the Middle East.

[Ben-Elisar] What international conference? We are prepared to accept an international conference between Israel and Syria, another between Israel and Jordan, and even another with Iraq, but two-sided, bilateral conferences, which are also international conferences. But if you want a conference that will be attended by the Americans, the British, the Russians, the Chinese..., and the PLO, well, they can hold it, but Israel will not be there.

[Coy] How do you propose resolving the Palestinian issue?

[Ben-Elisar] We will resolve the Palestinian problem between ourselves. The Palestinians have lost, exactly as they did in the thirties, when they went to Berlin because they were hoping that Berlin could help them. Now they have gone to Baghdad because they believe that Baghdad will help them. That is why they celebrate every missile that falls on Tel Aviv. They lost in the thirties and they will lose now.

[Coy] But what will happen if Saddam Husayn wins the war?

[Ben-Elisar] If Iraq wins, the whole political, diplomatic, and international system built by the Americans in the Middle East over 40 years will collapse. The Middle East will enter such a period of chaos that the outcome cannot be foreseen.

[Coy] And if Iraq loses?

[Ben-Elisar] If Saddam Husayn disappears, we will have a Middle East which, although traumatized, will try to move toward a certain stability. But I am afraid that after this war the Arab world will return to animosity against Israel because it will wish to find again a little unity; for that, a common denominator, which has always been Israel, is needed.

Foreign Ministry Foresees Talks With PLO Leaders

TA3101102291 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 31 Jan 91 p A2

[Report by political correspondent 'Aqiva Eldar]

[Text] An official Foreign Ministry document, based on assessments by defense elements, indicates a chance of holding talks with the local PLO leadership in the territories after the war in the Gulf is over. Distributed as a briefing to Israeli representations abroad, the document quotes Palestinian public figures who foresee a stronger local leadership, which would make the implementation of the autonomy plan possible.

Two of the three Palestinian leaders mentioned by the United States and sources in the military government as candidates to represent the residents of the territories are today being held in administrative detention (the two are Sari Nusaybah and Radwan Abu-'Ayyash; the third is Faysal al-Husayni). The United States intends to begin contacts with Egypt very soon to find candidates for the Palestinian delegation from among the residents of the territories.

The document, which is unclassified, quotes a Palestinian public figure and industrialist close to Fatah activists as saying that the PLO has been badly hurt by the war in the Gulf and that its status is very low. According to him, the current composition of the PLO leadership will not be viable in the future. That is why "the leadership of PLO supporters in the territories is expected to grow stronger, more independent in its stands, and less dependent on the PLO abroad. It will thus be able to initiate political activity and take part in the political process, even without receiving direct instructions from the outside."

The document says that another public figure told his Israeli interlocutors that the expected defeat of Saddam Husayn will necessarily be followed by a severe blow to the status of the PLO and of Yasir 'Arafat personally. " 'Arafat will have to go, which will allow other forces in the PLO to act."

"Conditions will be created for a political process with the backing of the United States, Egypt, and Syria, and even for the implementation of the autonomy plan in the territories under local leadership. This will be possible provided that it is accompanied by an improvement in the economic conditions in the territories—a sort of Marshall Plan for the territories." The document further notes that with the beginning of the implementation of the political process, Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] and the extreme factions of the rejectionist front supported by Iraq and Syria will be weakened.

The two figures believe that after the Gulf war is over, the intifadah will not stop but will become more political under the leadership in the territories and less influenced by PLO elements abroad.

Al-Husayni Discusses Territories, Gulf War

PM2801115991 Madrid DIARIO 16 in Spanish 22 Jan 91 p 13

[Interview with Faysal al-Husayni, PLO representative in Gaza and the West Bank, by Vidal Coy in Jerusalem; date not given]

[Text] [Coy] Have the Iraqi attacks on Tel Aviv boosted the morale of the Palestinians living in Gaza and the West Bank?

[Al-Husayni] I would say yes, to some extent. With those missiles the Palestinians have gained the perception that this is not a one-sided but a two-sided war; that the Iraqis

can defend themselves. Perhaps because of this threat there could be a possibility of a cease-fire and of negotiations for a political solution to all the problems of this part of the world, because the most important thing for the Palestinians is still to rid themselves of Israeli occupation.

[Coy] Has 'Arafat's support for Saddam benefited or harmed the Palestinian cause?

[Al-Husayni] The PLO supported not Saddam's occupation of Kuwait but his initiative on withdrawing from the emirate if at the same time Israel withdrew from the West Bank and Gaza. This has not been understood outside the occupied territories by the West, and this does indeed harm us.

[Coy] Has the PLO-U.S. dialogue finally been broken off?

[Al-Husayni] Unfortunately, the United States wants international law to be applied in Kuwait while forgetting that the Palestinians have been suffering here for 24 years, and nobody is doing anything for us as they are doing for Kuwait. Maybe this is because we depend here on olive oil, while the Kuwaitis depend on another kind of oil.

[Coy] Is that why Iraq has attacked Israel?

[Al-Husayni] Saddam Husayn found his right to use his power against Israel in the neglect of the Palestinian issue and in the Israelis' provocations in the occupied Palestinian territories.

[Coy] Can you justify the missiles falling on areas occupied by civilians, such as Tel Aviv?

[Al-Husayni] I oppose all those things. I cannot support the bombing of Tel Aviv and protest the bombing of Baghdad. I have a single line. I would like to see a political solution. We oppose war, because war is no solution.

[Coy] What does the Patriot missile batteries' arrival in Israel mean to you?

[Al-Husayni] The Israelis are now finding that Iraq is attacking them, and they cannot respond but must allow the Americans to come and defend them against those Iraqi missiles. Because, even if they survive this time, the next threat could come from Turkey, Egypt, or Syria. As I have always said, the Arabs can be defeated more than once, but not the Israelis. That is why they should seek a political solution, whose prospects of success are diminishing from year to year.

[Coy] Was the stance of some European countries of calling for no simultaneous linkage between a solution for the occupation of Kuwait and a solution for the territories occupied by Israel understood by the Palestinians of the West Bank and Gaza?

[Al-Husayni] It was understood perfectly, but we also understand that they called for that solution but did not fight for it. In these cases we need fighters for peace, not pleas.

[Coy] Will the war against Iraq harm your cause?

[Al-Husayni] This war harms everybody.

[Coy] Will it delay the possibility of reaching a political solution for the occupied territories?

[Al-Husayni] If we cannot stop it now and try and find a peaceful solution, the Middle East will enter a period of instability; everything will change, governments will fall.... To maintain order the Americans will find themselves forced to keep here the 500,000 servicemen they already have here.

[Coy] Which governments do you believe are in the most difficult position?

[Al-Husayni] Those of Syria and Iraq, if the war continues for several weeks; all the Gulf countries' regimes, if it goes on for months.

[Coy] But is it realistic to call for a cease-fire now, four days after the war began, following over five months of fruitless contacts?

[Al-Husayni] This war is too dangerous. The fighting is terrible. The suffering of the people living in Baghdad, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, here, and even those of the U.S. forces, must not continue. It is necessary to call for a cease-fire or a political solution.

Envoy to Germany Views Palestinian Issue

LD3001175991 Berlin ADN in German 1700 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Excerpt] Bonn (ADN)—Binyamin Navon, Israeli ambassador to the Federal Republic, has spoken in favor of a comprehensive peace settlement in the Middle East after the ending of hostilities. He stressed to the AUGSBURGER ALLEGEMEINE (Thursday edition) Israel's readiness for talks which would also include topics such as an independent state for the Palestinians. "That does not mean, however, that we will be prepared to accept such a state. But the subject is not taboo," Navon stated. He described the Palestinian-Israeli conflict as "possibly the most complicated conflict of this century." It must be dealt with separately because of its complexity.

The ambassador stressed that Israel, with just under 4 million Jewish citizens, is in a "hostile sea of over 120 million Arabs." The objective and subjective feeling of being threatened has arisen from this, and such a feeling must be eased by confidence-building measures. At the same time Navon favored talks with elected Palestinian representatives in the territories administered by Israel. In his opinion there is little point in contacts with the PLO's "professional Palestinians" in Tunis. They would

be outside the region affected, and have not been elected by anyone. [passage omitted]

Gorbachev Spokesman Praises Israeli Restraint

TA3101101391 Jerusalem Voice of Israel and IDF Radio Network in Hebrew 0835 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Report by Gid'on Remez]

[Text] Sergey Grigoryev, the deputy spokesman for Soviet President Gorbachev, made sure he was properly briefed before he agreed to an interview with the Voice of Israel. During the 20-minute interview, he stressed and reiterated two basic points. The first: The Soviet Union remains steadfast in its support of the anti-Iraqi coalition, even though it would like to see less bombing of civilian targets in lieu of military ones. The second: It does not accept any linkage between the Gulf war and the Palestinian question.

Grigoryev, in what I believe constitutes an unprecedented statement by an official Soviet spokesman, expressed praise for Israel's restraint in face of the Iraqi missile attacks, which he vehemently condemned. Israel's self-restraint, Grigoryev told correspondent Isabella Ginor in our studio, has foiled Saddam Husayn's scheme to drag Israel into the conflict and to thus widen it. This, however, together with the preservation of the coalition in the wake of the Baker-Bessmertnykh talks in Washington, has worked to create a new atmosphere in what will be the post-war Middle East. This new political climate will permit and will also necessitate talks immediately after the end of the Gulf war, in order to achieve a comprehensive resolution of the Middle East conflict by means of negotiations between Israel and its Arab neighbors.

It is worth noting that in comparison to statements made by the same spokesman at the outbreak of the war, the term international conference was not uttered even once. Talks between Israel and its neighbors are what is called for following the resolution of the Gulf crisis. Therefore, although Israel casts a censorious eye on any linkage in general, at least something positive may be discerned in the way the Soviet Union sees the future of the process.

At any rate, this determined stance against Saddam Husayn—even though there are some reservations regarding the means being employed against him—is apparently not shared by all Soviet elements. Grigoryev confirmed that here and there one can see demonstrations in support of Iraq. Other sources informed us that these are quite widespread. Grigoryev even admitted that people are signing up to volunteer to fight for Iraq, and this is probably particularly true in the Muslim republics of the Soviet Union. He confirmed, moreover, that due to the fact that the Soviet Union currently finds itself in the anti-Iraqi coalition, there is fear in the southernmost Soviet republics that Iraqi missiles, currently aimed at Israel, could be redirected against them. Mikhail Vaskov, a correspondent for the independent INTERFAX news agency, told us that in Armenia, for example, which is closest in range to the Iraqi missiles, the television is already broadcasting programs teaching protective measures against gas attacks, just like in Israel.

Attacks on Evacuee Vehicles From Iraq Criticized

NC3001200091 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1800 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Several Jordanian civilian vehicles came under vicious air attacks inside Iraqi territory. Preliminary reports indicate that four Jordanian citizens were martyred. Five trucks were destroyed yesterday and four today. In addition, several cars belonging to civilian evacuees from Iraq and Kuwait were struck.

His Majesty King Husayn, the supreme commander of the Armed Forces, accompanied by al-Sharif Zayd Bin-Shakir, chief of the Royal Hashemite Court, visited the al-Husayn Medical Center this evening. During the visit, his majesty checked on the health of a number of people injured during the air raids against a number of Jordanian trucks and cars inside Iraqi territory.

In a session this evening, the House of Representatives listened to a report submitted by Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri concerning the latest information available on a number of trucks being bombed by the coalition countries.

[Begin al-Masri recording] Please allow me to offer the following information regarding what has happened in the past two days as well as today. Air attacks took place against some civilian cars inside Iraqi territory. We have managed to obtain the following information:

As a result of this savage air bombardment, four Jordanian citizens were martyred. There is also information that an Egyptian citizen was martyred, but this is unconfirmed. We will have complete information on this later. Five tankers were destroyed yesterday, and four tankers were destroyed today. A number of cars belonging to evacuees arriving from Baghdad and Kuwait were also hit.

Mr. Speaker, the tankers and the civilian cars were Jordanian; they were clearly not military vehicles. They were driving on a recognized international highway in broad daylight. The vicious aircraft that attacked those vehicles—the majority of which belonged to evacuees—knew what they were doing.

As a result, dear brothers, I summoned the U.S. ambassador this afternoon just before this session. I also summoned the ambassadors of the other four UN Security Council permanent member states. I will meet tomorrow with the ambassadors of Italy, Austria, and Romania: Italy in its capacity as a participant in the coalition forces, and Austria and Romania in their capacity as members of the UN Security Council.

I gave the U.S. ambassador a strongly worded protest and denunciation of this attack against the lives of Jordanian people and against Jordanian property. I told him that this attack completely contravenes the Geneva Conventions of 1949, which stipulate that civilians and civilian targets should not be attacked during war. The highway is used for humanitarian purposes, because it is the only highway for the evacuees to get out of Iraq. Jordan has tried to help those evacuees for humanitarian and brotherly reasons.

Furthermore, there is also a document from the UN Security Council that says the transportation of oil from Iraq to Jordan is excluded from the application of economic sanctions. Therefore, if the goal of this savage air aggression against Jordanian tankers is to pressure Jordan—or if this attack is one of the means to pressure Jordan—to change its position, then this will not happen. The government, the House, and the people, God willing, will stick to their position and adhere to their principles.

I have asked the U.S. ambassador and the other ambassadors for a pledge that such an attack will not recur, and we reserve the right to take other measures in all fields. This, Mr. Speaker, is the government's initial reaction to what happened yesterday and today. The government will keep your esteemed House informed on all developments in the future. Thank you. [end recording]

Deputies Decry Attacks

JN3101080391 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 31 Jan-1 Feb 91 pp 1,5

[Excerpts] Amman (J.T.)—Four Jordanians were killed and 10 others were injured when U.S. and allied jet fighters attacked and burnt several civilian Jordanian vehicles and nine oil tankers inside Iraqi territory Tuesday and Wednesday, [according to] Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri. [passage omitted]

Deputies took the floor and expressed outrage over the attacks. Amman Deputy Faris al-Nabulsi called it "terrorist action."

"This is an act of racists and killers and we must not allow America to shed the blood of our people," Mr. al-Nabulsi said.

Deputy Fakhri Qa'war renewed calls he made at the House for expelling the American ambassador. Mr. Qa'war and other deputies called on the government not to continue to abide by U.N. Security Council resolutions against Iraq.

"Jordan need not be concerned by the Security Council resolutions, since the aim is not to liberate Kuwait but to destroy Iraq," Deputy Dhuqan al-Hindawi said.

While some deputies denounced the attack on Jordanian civilians, others said that "Jordanian martyrs" were not more important than the Iraqis.

"We and the Iraqis are in one trench," Deputy Yusuf al-Khasawinah said. "We are ready to die all alongside our Iraqi brothers," he said.

Asked about the visit of the American envoy to Jordan, Richard Armitage, 10 days ago, Mr al-Masri said that Mr. Armitage was a special envoy of President George

Bush. "He wanted to establish contact between us, because contact was broken," Mr. al-Masri said.

"He (Mr. Armitage) talked about the U.S. position and showed understanding for our position," Mr. al-Masri said adding the Armitage visit was blown out of proportion.

Earlier in the session, Mr. al-Masri briefed the House on his visit to Iran last week and his talks with Iranian officials. He said that an Iranian charge d'affaires would arrive in Jordan shortly to open the Iranian embassy in Amman, and his Jordanian counterpart will be heading for Tehran soon for the same purpose.

"Iran is completely aware of the dangers" of foreign intervention in the Gulf, he said.

While Iran rejects Iraq's occupation of Kuwait, they see the ongoing war as destroying Iraq and serving Israeli interests, he said.

He said Iranian officials had assured him they would do their utmost to secure a ceasefire in the Gulf war.

He said while Iranians are neutral in the war itself, they are not neutral as far as the Iraqi people are concerned.

AL-DUSTUR Editorial

JN3101105191 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 31 Jan 91 pp 1, 16

[Editorial: "U.S. Aggression Against Jordan"]

[Text] The criminal act perpetrated by the Zionist-Crusade coalition forces against Jordanian transport vehicles and cars carrying peaceful innocent citizens is a flagrant aggression against a country that has kept out of the raging war. It is also a direct violation of all conventions that ban bombing of civilians and destroying their property during war.

We do not believe that the aircraft of the United States and its allies, which strafed the Jordanians and their vehicles on an international highway on the border with Iraq, were ignorant of the crime they were perpetrating against this country and its citizens, who refused to join the coalition of the new Crusaders, were unable to distinguish their targets, or mistook the fuel trucks for mobile missile launching pads.

What the United States perpetrated yesterday was an attempt to punish Jordan and its people. It was a carefully contrived crime meant to perhaps intimidate and terrorize Jordan or to expand the war zone and drag other parties to the furnace now burning in the Gulf.

We cannot view the bombardment of the only road linking Iraq with Jordan in isolation from the piracy taking place at Jordan's only port that links us with the world, especially since all this is taking place within the framework of a larger operation aimed at besieging Jordan and strangulating its economy.

The United States and its allies will be grossly mistaken if they believe that by this ugly crime they can make Jordan change its firm convictions, weaken its total commitment to peace and dialogue, or force it to join the crusade coalition, unaware that in this Arab country there are men who do not bend before storms.

The new U.S. crime against Jordan increases our belief in the sound position we adopted from the beginning of the Gulf crisis, and will entrench our policy of opposing war and violence. It will, above all, deepen the cohesion of the people of this country behind their political leadership and promote our conviction of the inevitable defeat of the naked aggression the United States is launching against the present of this nation and its future, whose dawn is breaking in Baghdad.

Pro-Iraq, Anti-U.S. Demonstration Staged 30 Jan

JN3101081991 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 31 Jan-1 Feb 91 p 3

["Special to the JORDAN TIMES" by 'Awdah 'Awdah]

[Text] Amman—Thousands of pro-Iraqi demonstrators marched in downtown Amman Wednesday chanting anti-American slogans and calling on Iraqi troops to sweep down through Saudi Arabia.

"Forward Forward O Saddam; from al-Khafji to al-Dammam," shouted the estimated 10,000 protesters in central areas of the capital.

The march coincided with reports that Iraqi troops and tanks had thrust into Saudi Arabia and were fighting U.S. and allied forces around the town of al-Khafji, south of the Kuwaiti border with Saudi Arabia.

Al-Dammam lies about 300 kilometres south of al-Khafji along the Saudi coast.

"We are all ready to sacrifice our souls for Iraq," chanted the protesters in the march which was organised by the National Youth Federation in Jordan.

The marchers, who walked from al-'Abdali to King Husayn and King Faysal streets towards al-Hashimi street downtown carried posters and portraits of His Majesty King Husayn together with pictures of the Iraqi and Palestine presidents and Jordanian, Iraqi and Palestinian flags.

The posters carried slogans calling for death to America and its agents in the region.

Upon reaching al-Hashimiyah Plaza, downtown Amman, the marchers burnt American flags as women on top of the surrounding buildings ululated.

Parliament member Husni al-Shiyab addressed the marchers stressing that the Arab masses would never kneel before the invaders.

Another deputy, Fakhri Qa'war, delivered another address underlining Jordan's absolute support for Iraq and playing tribute to the Iraqi people and armed forces.

"The time has come for Arabs to deal with the enemies who have desecrated Arab land and holy shrines," said Qa'war.

He demanded that Arab governments listen to the voice of their masses and back Iraq's efforts to attain victory over the invading forces.

Other speakers included Munir Sharayihah, from the Jordanian Committee for the Support of the Palestinian Intifada, and Muhammad Nu'man, member of the executive committee of the National Youth Federation.

Interior Minister on French Cultural Center Fire

NC3101074091 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Responding to a question by AFP, Jordanian Interior Minister Salim al-Masa'idah yesterday said that a fire had broken out in the library of the French Cultural Center but that it had been extinguished. The minister did not explain the cause of the fire. He said that the police have started an investigation. He added that the power supply to the district which houses the center was cut for security reasons.

An unidentified caller had earlier declared in a telephone call with AFP that al-Jihad Brigades [Alwiyat al-Jihad], an as yet unkown organization, was responsible for the fire. This is the first reported operation against French interests in Jordan since the outbreak of hostilities in the gulf.

Mitterrand Criticized for 'Black Zionized History'

JN3001130791 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 29 Jan 91 p 18

["Another Talk" column by Dr. Sa'di Dabbur: "Mitterrand and the Blind Rancor of the Crusaders"]

[Text] On the same day that the sacred Iraqi missiles, which lit our nation's long night, fell on Israeli military and strategic installations and dens of terrorism, hundreds of the planes of the aggressive American-Atlantic-Zionist alliance and their agents—the oil Arabs—were carrying out their criminal destructive missions over Iraqi territory, dropping tens of thousands of tonnes of deadly explosives. This resulted in the martyrdom of hundreds of peaceful civilians. However, the civilized and humanitarian Western conscience was not moved. It was only moved after reports on the wounding of 96 Israelis. Then, the heads of the allied and non-allied Western states and their media orchestras created a hue and cry, lamented humanity, and cried for the sake of the "innocents" of the sons of Zion, who fell victim to Iraqi "barbarism" and Arab "savagery" and other descriptions contained in their dictionaries.

We did not expect anything less than this, especially since our long and bitter experiences with the "free" world and its principles and values, since the dawn of colonialism from which our peoples have suffered, have taught us the nature of its double standards, and exposed its lies about freedom, democracy, and other civilized and humanitarian slogans, particularly when the matter concerns Oriental people in general, and Arabs and Muslims in particular.

This dirty war, which is being led by the American empire of evil, reveals the black rancor that is still hidden in the Western mind and conscience that is burdened with fascism. The old East-West conflict, although it has taken the form of a North-South conflict, is still alive and vivid just as the memories of the Crusades are vivid in the minds of the Western decision-makers. Otherwise, how can we interpret France's aggressive position at a time when it knows full well that one of the objectives of the American war is to undermine its role and that of the future united Europe?

During the past days, French planes have carried out "heroic" raids on southern Iraq and the al-Nida' area, killing scores of women and children. Despite this, we did not hear a single word from any French official. Mitterrand has exposed his hidden colonialist Crusader rancor after we had wagered on him to the point where we were about to forget the memory of the one million Algerian martyrs and hundreds of thousands from various Arab countries, who fell for the sake of saving their nation from brutal French colonialism, that wore the cloak on liberty, equality, and brotherhood.

We believed Mr. Mitterrand's lies that his forces in the Gulf would not participate in the aggression, and that they are there only to avert the expected war. We forgot his black Zionized history when he was a young minister in the colonialist government of Guy Mollet, which waged wars of annihilation in Algeria and participated in the Suez battle in 1956 along with Israel and England. Mitterrand has proved that he is the legitimate heir of the French criminals and executioners experienced by our nation, beginning with Peter the Hermit, Count Godfrey, and their Crusades, passing through King Charles XI and his generals who enslaved the Algerian people, and ending with the infamous Guy Mollet.

We stress to Mr. Mitterrand and his ilk of war criminals and plunderers of the peoples' wealth, that their new military campaign will face formidable and abominable defeat, especially since lofty Iraq, through its resources and capabilities, leadership, army, and people, and through the rallying around it by the Arab and Islamic masses and the honest and poor men in the world, is not like the Seljuks statelets in the 11th century, is not like Algeria in the 19th century, and is not even like the heroic Egypt in 1956, which aborted their schemes. Great Iraq will triumph. And soon will the unjust assailants know what vicissitudes their affairs will take. [Koranic verses]

Saudis Said To Have Reached 'Point of No Return'

JN3001134191 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 30 Jan 91 p 20, 16

["Everyday" column by Tariq Masarwah: "Who Is Facing the Pan-Arab Shakeup!!"]

[Text] When the Saudi regime gets to the point of seeking American and Israeli hostility toward Jordan, it will have spilled out all its old and new hatred and become exhausted!!

Saudi Arabia has closed the pipeline and its border with Jordan; expelled as many Jordanians as it could—Jordanians who have taught, trained, and given more than they have taken. Saudi customs in Jeddah also stole, in cooperation with Saudi Arabia's American allies, Jordanian imports, which were bound for the Port of al-'Aqabah. These imports were diverted to the Port of Jeddah and sold at "a public auction!!"

What more can be done? Yet, the old, but new, hatred has not been satiated. Here we have their news media trying, in a primitive manner, to say to the Israelis: O cousins, the missiles that are hitting Tel Aviv and Haifa are located in Jordan!! O our allies, to whom we pay the price of their occupation of our holy lands, why not shell Jordanian trucks, factories, schools, mosques, and churches just as you shell Iraqi houses, factories, schools, mosques, and churches?

It is strange that this phenomenon has also moved to Cairo. The Egyptian president is threatening to retaliate against Sudan if it "commits aggression against Egypt and shells the High Dam." The American fleet and air force in the Red Sea, the Suez Canal area, and Ras Banas are assembling off the Sudanese and Yemeni coasts and are threatening the Sudanese and the Yemenis, and tomorrow, they will threaten Somalia and the Somalis.

The Saudi regime is exercising its old and new hatred against the Yemeni people and Yemen. Yemen's borders are also closed. The little money, which more than one-half million Yemenis have spent their lives to gather, has been plundered, and these Yemenis were expelled from the "paradise". Moreover, more than 1 millions Yemenis were also terrorized and most of them were held in a worse way than hostages are held!!

What is the Saudi regime trying to achieve through this hostile, heedless behavior toward millions of Arabs? Does this regime believe that it can continue to exercise its hatred under the protection of the American tanks and warplanes forever? Does this regime think that it can buy this nation as it has bought its policies over the past decades?

It is obvious that the Arab reactionaries have entered the fateful battle by entering the Gulf war, and that they are fighting their last battle believing that the military victory of the Americans will give them the opportunity of life. But it will not be like that because these regimes will be the first victims of the Americans. No American or European will agree to carry on his back the regimes of the Middle Ages after the losses of the terrible war.

The hypothesis of the American and Atlantic military victory has been doubted by American and Atlantic commanders since the failure of the air-missile plan, which was not witnessed even during the first week of the last chapter of World War II and since the ground war decision became the most serious one facing the American President, who announced five times a day for five months that he would go to war.

The Saudi regime has reached the point of no return, and we expect worse than the story of the Iraqi missiles that are claimed to be mounted on Jordanian trucks in Jordan. These news media, which are neighing, are not being heard by the Arabs, who are now listening to the songs of the "al-Husayn" and the "zeal" of the brave men of Iraq and the Arabs. Those news media are fearfully whistling in the dark and are intended for regimes that have been gripped by panic since 2 August, when the pan-Arab shakeup began from Casablanca to Aden. The days of the forces of darkness are limited.

King Husayn Visits General Command, Forces

NC3001201491 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn, supreme commander of the Armed Forces, visited the General Command Headquarters at noon today. He was welcomed by the chief of staff, Staff General Fathi Abu-Talib and his aides, the commander of the Royal Air Force, and the Inspector General. His majesty held a lengthy meeting with the chief of staff at which they discussed matters of interest to the Armed Forces. Prime Minister Mudar Badran attended part of the meeting.

His majesty, accompanied by the chief of staff, then visited the Special Forces. During the visit, he was briefed by the Special Forces commander on the tasks assigned to the force. His majesty met with a number of Special Forces troops and talked to them about the heavy responsibilities we are shouldering in this steadfast country, which has the longest line of confrontation with the enemy, especially under the current difficult and fateful circumstances. He said: Our responsibilities are great, especially at this juncture, and we are performing our duties, maintaining this land, and fulfilling our trust despite all hardships and obstacles. At the end of the visit, his majesty expressed appreciation to the Special Forces troops for their high morale and the enormous effort they are exerting in defense of the soil of this dear homeland.

India

Refueling Facilities for U.S. Forces Expanded

BK3001155791 Hong Kong AFP in English 1435 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] New Delhi, Jan 30 (AFP)—The Indian Government, under heavy fire here for letting U.S. Gulf war planes refuel in Bombay, said Wednesday it had allowed the aircraft to transit through two more airports.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman said U.S. transporters flying to and from the Philippines to the war theatre had been permitted to refuel in the southern Indian city of Madras and the Taj Mahal town of Agra, as well as Bombay. He said "a few flights" had so far used transit facilities in Madras and Agra, but gave no more details.

The spokesman was confirming newspaper reports here that U.S. Air Force planes had stopped at Madras airport.

The U.S. Consulate in Madras booked seven rooms at a hotel near the airport for the crew of one plane which landed Saturday, the reports said. The crew included four U.S. citizens, two Italians and a Briton, the business and political observer said.

An unnamed British Broadcasting Corp. correspondent holidaying in the city was quoted as identifying a plane which landed Saturday as an Airborne Warning and Control Systems (AWACS) carrier.

Indian politicians and the press have hit out at the government of Prime Minister Chandra Shekhar for allowing U.S. war planes refuelling facilities, accusing New Delhi of compromising its avowed neutrality in the Gulf conflict.

The government has said it had permitted the facilities to be used since January 9 only for transport planes ferrying non-lethal supplies and on humanitarian missions such as the evacuation of war wounded.

Parties' Reaction to Refueling

BK3001162391 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] The Congress-I spokesman, Mr. M.J. Akbar, has said that his party is totally against allowing refueling facilities to any foreign military aircraft in India. He told newsmen in New Delhi today the party president, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, is taking up this issue with Chandra Shekhar government. Mr. Akbar maintained that the decision to allow the refueling of the U.S. military aircraft was taken by the former V.P. Singh government. The chief whip of the Janata Dal in parliament, Mr. Satyapal Malik, has, however, described the allegation as ridiculous.

Meanwhile, six members of the Lok Sabha have asked the government to stop providing refueling facilities to the U.S. Air Force aircraft. In a joint statement issued in New Delhi today, they said they will review the support to the Janata Dal-S government if the refueling facilities are continued. The signatories to the statement are: Mr. Mohammad Hassan Commander, Mr. Mohanibhai Sanjibhai Delkar, Mr. Nandu Thapa, Mr. Rajdev Singh, Mr. Munam Khan, and Mr. D.J. Tandil.

Yemen, Algeria Support Indian Gulf Initiative

BK3001161791 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Yemen and Algeria have expressed support to India's initiative to end the Gulf war. They have also offered to cooperate with New Delhi in finding a peaceful solution to the crisis. A special envoy of the prime minister of Yemen met the prime minister, Mr. Chandra Shekhar, in New Delhi today and handed over a letter.

A special envoy of the Algerian president also called on the prime minister and handed over a message.

A special envoy of the president of Palestine is arriving in New Delhi tomorrow with a message for the prime minister from Mr. Yasir 'Arafat.

The Soviet Union has lauded India's efforts for a mutually acceptable political solution to the Gulf war. At a meeting with the Indian ambassador in Moscow, the Soviet deputy foreign minister said the escalation of the conflict should be prevented.

Joint Appeal to Iraq To Vacate Kuwait

BK3101053491 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0435 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] India and Zimbabwe have jointly appealed to Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait to stop the Gulf war. The call was issued in Harare yesterday after a meeting with the Indian deputy foreign minister, Mr. Digvijay Singh, and the foreign minister of Zimbabwe, Dr. Nathan Shamuyarira.

Government Satellite Monitoring Gulf Oil Slick

BK3001164391 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] The Department of Space has been tracking the oil slick in the Gulf using Indian satellite. Enormous fire and smoke emissions have been detected near the Iraqi city of Basra which is close to the Rumaylah oil field near Jazirat-Bubiyan island. The oil slick first started from Mina' al Ahmadi. The estimated thickness of the spreading oil was about 200 mm at the center. The slick has been spreading particularly in the east-west direction from the Gulf. The Department of Space will continue to track the latest position of the slick with the data available from the satellite.

Tamil Nadu Brought Under President's Rule

BK3101014991 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0035 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Tamil Nadu has been brought under President's rule and the state assembly dissolved. The president, Mr. R. Venkataraman, issued a proclamation to this effect under Article 356 of the Constitution late last night. An official spokesman said in New Delhi that the entire situation during the last few months in the state was earlier reviewed by the center. It was observed that the law and order situation has deteriorated particularly because of the unchecked activities of the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] in the coastal areas. In some parts of the state the LTTE militants have been carrying on their movements creating problems and they even managed to carve out areas of influence. There have also been instances of their passing arms and ammunition through underground channels and contacts at political levels. The spokesman also said that the meeting felt that Tamil Nadu was being used as a base by the LTTE militants and if allowed to continue unchecked it would affect the effectiveness of the state's administration. According to an agency report the center has rushed 14 companies of paramilitary force to Tamil Nadu to meet any situation arising out of the dismissal of the DMK [Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam] government. Reports say tension prevailed in Madras City and its suburbs on hearing the dismissal of the DMK government.

The imposition of President's rule in Tamil Nadu bringing to an end the two year old DMK government has evoked mixed reaction from political parties. The Janata Dal has described the decision as arbitrary and a clear misuse of constitutional provisions by the center. The party spokesman, Mr. S. Jaipal Reddy, has alleged that the central rule in the state was planned on the express orders of the Congress-I and its allies on whose support the central government survives. The party president, Mr. Bommai, has described the imposition of President's rule as murder of democracy. The former union minister and senior Congress-I leader, Mr. P. Chidambram, has expressed the view that the imposition of President's rule in Tamil Nadu is bitter but necessary medicine in the existing political situation in the state. Another Congress-I leader Mr. K.K. Tiwari has welcomed the decision saying the security and integrity of the nation was being compromised with the opened connivance of the DMK government. The BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] president, Mr. L.K. Advani, has said that before imposition of President's rule the state government should have been given a warning. Mr. Atal Behari Vajpayee has criticized the center's action saying that the Chandra Shekhar government has taken the step as the price for the Congress-I support. The CPI-M [Communist Part of India-Marxist] General Secretary, Mr. E.M.S. Namboodripad, said the imposition of President's rule in Tamil Nadu is against the constitutional provisions. The CPI [Communist Party of India] secretary, Mr. Homidaji, described the action as most uncalled for. The Asom Gana Parishad president, Mr. Prafulla Kumar Mahanta, has called it an undemocratic step of the center against an elected government of the state. The Telugu Desam leader, Mr. P. Upendra, described it as an action taken by a puppet government at the instance of the Congress-I.

Parties React

BK3101093291 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] The former chief minister of Tamil Nadu, Mr. Karunanidhi, has accused the prime minister of failing to keep up democratic traditions. In a statement issued in Madras today, he said that the prime minister seems to have suggested president's rule to save his own government at the center.

The BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] has demanded full facts about the steps taken by the center in regard to Tamil Nadu before imposing president's rule in the state. Talking to newsmen in Jaipur this morning, the BJP president, Mr. L.K. Advani, observed that the DMK [Dravida Munnetra Kazagham] has failed to deal with the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] and the growth of militancy in Tamil Nadu needed to be checked. At the same time, he pointed out that president's rule is an extreme step that should only be taken after exhausting all other means.

The Congress-I has described the step as a long overdue recognition of the harsh ground reality in the state. The party spokesman, Mr. M.J. Akbar, said in New Delhi that this step was extremely necessary to protect the national interest. He said there was obvious linkage between the LTTE and the antinational and secessionist elements in the rest of the country.

The left parties in West Bengal have criticized the Chandra Shekhar government for the alleged undemocratic dismissal of the elected government in Tamil Nadu. The state chief minister, Mr. Jyoti Basu, and other leaders of the Left Front viewed the center's decision as a step to please the Congress-I and the AIADMK [All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazagham].

Meanwhile, the former Tamil Nadu chief secretary, Mr. V. (Kattikeyan), has taken over as the adviser to the governor. He held a meeting with the secretaries of the state government this morning. Talking to newsmen later, Mr. (Kattikeyan) said that the law and order situation in the state is normal except for stray incidents in some places.

The AIADMK general secretary, Ms. Jayalalitha, has said the dismissal of the DMK government in Tamil Nadu was a timely step. In a statement in Madras today, she said the center's action was just and necessary in the interest of the country's unity and security.

Desalination Plant Commissioned at Bombay Center

BK3101095891 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] India's first desalination plant has been commissioned at the Bhabha Atomic Research Center—BARC—in Bombay. The plant based on the multistage flash technology would help in giving pure water at low cost. The prototype plant designed by the BARC engineers would help in setting up larger commercial size plants. According to BARC scientists, the multistage flash technology accounts for 70 percent of the desalination process adopted in the world.

Iran

Khamene'i Speech Criticizes Western Allies

LD3001130491 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Excerpts] Dear listeners, as you heard earlier in this newscast, on the auspicious birthday of the Lord of the Believers, His Holiness Imam 'Ali, son of Abu-Talib, peace be upon him, a large group of people and officials of the executive, judicial, military, and security organs met with the leader of the Islamic Revolution, His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i today. During the meeting, the leader of the Islamic revolution made a speech. We are broadcasting the text of the speech to end this newscast of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Good day, and may God be with you.

[Begin Khamene'i recording] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. [passage omitted] The path pursued by Imam 'Ali was the path of confronting tyranny and oppressors at all levels and by whatever means. It was our commitment to Imam 'Ali's path which threatened our Muslim nation and the system of the Islamic Republic. We are duty bound to continue this path. It is obvious that those who are accustomed to seeing the people of the world obey them blindly find it difficult to put up with a nation which stands against their bullying by relying on Islam and the Koran. It is natural that they become hostile with such a nation and resort to hostility.

It would have been surprising if the United States and the world powers and bullies had not become hostile with the Islamic Republic and had not borne a grudge against the Iranian nation. It would have been amazing if the planners of the sinister security and propaganda policies of Zionism had not hatched conspiracies against the Islamic Republic all over the world, day and night. The path of Islam is the path of confrontation against them. They are frightened of Islam. They have received a slap in the face from Islam. They have a bitter memory in their minds of Islam and the committed, sincere, and combative Muslims. They therefore confronted the Islamic Republic from the start of the revolution. They resorted to many tricks, one of the most sinister of which was their arming of this neighbor of ours. They equipped him with more and more sophisticated weapons daily and let him loose on the Islamic Republic. You, the Iranian nation, removed that problem. It was you who ended it. It was your courage which forced the enemy to end the dispute. Today they have fallen in the trap that they dug for us.

What is happening in Iraq today, this immense injustice committed today by the assailants and tyrannic aggressors against the Iraqi nation, is a blot of shame in the history of their life. See what they are doing with the nation of Iraq. They do not announce the statistics, do not reveal the statistics, and do not state the facts. What sin have the Iraqi people committed that they should be subjected to so much pressure and suffering?

Today the United States, its ringleaders, its friends, its allies, and its fellow travellers are committing one of the gravest human crimes in Iraq. God knows how many Iraqi people have been killed, wounded, disabled, or made homeless. Who is responsible for this? Who should pay for this? Who is responsible for shedding so much blood? They say: We have carried out several thousands sorties. Where have these sorties dropped bombs?

Several missiles were dropped on the land of the Zionists, and then the pawns of global arrogance all over the world raised their voices to express sympathy and support for the Zionists. Hundreds and even thousands of times more missiles are dropped on the Iraqi people. Why have they kept quiet? Why are they silent? Is this support for human rights? Western arrogance has exposed its ugly face. But we do not wish to support the Iraqi ringleaders. They are guilty, too. But this is another issue. The problem is the fact that today a Muslim nation is being crushed and destroyed by the Western arrogance, whose members have joined hands, some by giving money, others by providing equipment, some by encouraging and the rest by committing the crime directly. A nation is being crushed and destroyed under their weapons and jackboots. Of course the Iraqi nation will not be destroyed. The Iraqi nation shall remain alive as long as it relies on Islam. [audience shouts approval]

They have shown their face. See what they are doing! So much bombing! They are the same people who, when an explosion takes place in some corner of the world, fill the world with their protests, saying that civilians have been killed and this and that has been done. Who are those who are now being killed in Basra, Baghdad, Najaf, Karbala, the holy shrines, and other Iraqi cities? It is civilians who are being killed, women are being killed, children are being annihilated. This is the true face of world arrogance. Try to recognize it. You recognize them. It is now time for the people of the world to recognize them.

These are the people who are prepared to massacre thousands of human beings for the sake of their interests, for their oil, to ensure that a few of their factories continue working. This is what the United States is about. This is what England is about. This is what France

and the other Western powers are like. The only thing that can save mankind from these ravenous and man-eating wolves is Islam, revolutionary Islam. If Muslim nations wish to be saved from the satanic and infernal domination of vile Western arrogance, whose archsatan, the United States, is today leading and the rest of them are following, if they wish to be saved from this domination, the only choice for Muslim nations is to return to the Koran, return to Islam, to raise their clenched fists and smash the heads of the aggressors and their mercenaries. [shouting of slogans including a long chant of Death to America]

This is what was done by the Iranian nation. We are now on the eve of the Ten Days of Dawn [anniversary of Khomeyni's return to Iran]. The Ten Days of Dawn means reviving the memories of the radiant splendor of this great power, the enlivening and reactivation of this mighty volcano which shook the world of arrogance. You should cherish the memory of the Ten Days of Dawn, and the Iranian nation certainly cherishes it. Every day of those ten days, especially 22 Bahman [11 February] is a Day of God. They contain unforgettable memories for the Iranian nation. The Iranian nation was revived. [passage omitted]

Over the past 12 years, whenever our nation saw a sign of the hand of world arrogance and colonialism at work they acted with vigilance and decisiveness. This is the result of the revolution. This is the great gain which was bestowed on our nation as a result of the Islamic Revolution. It awakened people, it revived people, it gave power and courage to the people, it gave dignity to our people. Our nation was the first nation to prove that the United States could not do a damn thing. [shouting of slogans, including Death to America]

This is the path that should be followed by other nations. They should act, they should take steps, and the way of acting is adherence to Islam. May God bestow success on them. During the Ten Days of Dawn, the brothers who are in charge of organizing the ceremonies of the Ten Days of Dawn should set aside a day for showing sympathy to the Muslim and wronged Iraqi nation. God's peace and blessings be upon you. [end recording]

Karrubi Condemns U.S. 'Massacre' of Iraqis

LD3101105891 Tehran IRNA in English 1008 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 31, IRNA—Majlis speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Mehdi Karrubi on Thursday lashed out at the U.S. for its massacre of the Iraqi people and destruction of mosques and cultural centers of that country.

Speaking at an open session of the Majlis, Karrubi said Iraq's occupation of Kuwait provided the U.S. and its Western allies with an excuse to send troops to the Persian Gulf.

Accusing the U.S. of being hostile to the Islamic revolution and Islamic freedom movements throughout the world, the speakers said that Washington's war against Iraq was a war of oil.

He said that the money given to Israel by the U.S. Administration is in fact the money that the Saudi Government has given to the U.S. "The money given away so generously to the enemies of Islam belongs to the Islamic ummah," he told the Majlis.

Majles Issues Statement on Allied 'Crimes'

LD3101112191 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] The Majles deputies issued a statement condemning the crimes of the world arrogance, led by the United States, in slaughtering the Muslim, innocent, and defenseless people of Iraq and the violation of God's sacred sanctuary and the actions of the multinational forces in the land of divine inspiration [Saudi Arabia].

According to a report by the Central News Unit, this statement, in decisive support of the remarks made by His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, the leader of the Islamic revolution, and in sympathy with the Muslim and innocent people of Iraq, called on the martyr-raising nation of Iran, as well as the Muslim nations across the world, to stage marches and protest meetings to declare their revulsion of the inhuman acts of the world arrogance in Iraq and the Persian Gulf region.

Day of Sympathy for Iraqi Nation Scheduled

NC3101104591 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Following yesterday's remarks by His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i on the need to set a day during the Islamic Revolution's Ten Days of Dawn ceremonies for expressing sympathies for the Muslim and oppressed Iraqi nation, the headquarters in charge of the Islamic Republic's Ten Days of Dawn ceremonies has set Friday, 12 Bahman [1 February] as the day on which these sympathies will be expressed.

According to a statement issued by these headquarters, the Ten Days of Dawn staffs throughout the country have been asked to coordinate with the Friday prayer staffs, the Friday imams, preachers, and all the country's propaganda centers to pave the way for explaining the oppressions suffered by the Muslim and oppressed Iraqi people.

The statement says: Our country's Muslim and revolutionary people will be present at the 12 Bahman Day of God and will participate in the spectacular Friday prayers while expressing sympathies with the Muslim and oppressed Iraqi nation—an oppression which stems from expansionist and aggressive policies—will emphasize the need for Iraq's immediate withdrawal from Kuwait and for the foreign forces' immediate withdrawal from the Persian Gulf. They will also condemn the

savage and pitiless massacre and the destruction of the innocent Iraqi people's human and vital resources by the multinational forces led by America.

Tomorrow's Friday prayers in Tehran will be held, as stated in previous statements by this staff, around the shrine of Imam Khomeyni, peace be upon him. The statement says in conclusion that in order to respect the death anniversary of [the Prophet's daughter] Zaynab, peace be upon her, and to express sympathies with the oppressed Iraqi nation, programs such as festivals and sports events throughout the country have been canceled.

Imams Urged To Preach Against U.S. Crimes

LD3101101191 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0855 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Following the decision to name 1 February as a day of sympathy with the Muslim and oppressed nation of Iraq, the center in charge of mosques affairs called on imams Friday to preach at mosques, religious centers and gatherings, tonight and tomorrow night on the crimes of global arrogance led by the United States against the Muslim and oppressed nation of Iran, and to announce the Muslim nation of Iran's sympathy with the Muslim and oppressed nation of Iraq.

Planes Said To Return to Iraq From Iran

TA3101103691 (Clandestine) Iran's Flag of Freedom Radio in Persian 0330 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] We have learned that the more than 200 Iraqi military and civilian planes which have flown to the Islamic Republic are stationed in Ahvaz, Reza'iyeh, Hamadan, Dezful, and Tehran Airports. The Iraqi planes cross the frontier over the border mountains in the Khorramabad region and enter Iranian airspace, generally landing at the Ahvaz and Dezful Airports. According to this report, the Iraqi planes stationed in the Islamic Republic's airports take this same flight path at night and fly back to Iraq over the Khorrambad region mountains.

Another report indicates that the Iraqi aircraft fly to the Islamic Republic from Iraq with full loads of ammunition and equipment. One of these aircraft crashed while landing and exploded because of the large amount of bombs and missiles it was carrying.

Spokesman Denies Return

LD3001200291 Tehran IRNA in English 1930 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 30, IRNA—Spokesman of Iran's Foreign Ministry Morteza Sarmadi here today disclaimed foreign media reports about the return flight to Iraq of a seized Iraqi cargo plane.

In an interview with IRNA here Wednesday he said as a rule the Islamic Republic of Iran will continue to seize all planes and vessels of all parties to the war which should come into the Iranian airspace or her territorial borders, and will not return those aircraft or vessels to their respective country until after the war in the Persian Gulf.

The spokesman said he did not know "the purpose behind the airing of this and other unfounded reports such as Iran's sale to Iraq of missile launchers."

He said Iran would never heed such "false" reports, and that she would not waiver in her policy of neutrality in the current war. Meanwhile, he said, Iran would all the same continue her efforts for a peaceful settlement of the conflict in the Persian Gulf so that "the occupation of Kuwait by Iraq may be ended."

Denies Scud Launchers Sold

NC3101053391 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Last night the Foreign Ministry spokesman emphasized the Islamic Republic of Iran's policy of neutrality in the regional war and decisively disclaimed reports by some of the mass media citing Western military-political sources on the flight of an Iraqi cargo plane from Iran to Baghdad and other false reports on the sale of Scud missile launchers to Iraq.

Mr. Sarmadi pointed out that the Islamic Republic of Iran will not be influenced by such lies to alter its principled policy on neutrality and will continue its efforts to find a peaceful solution for ending this destructive war in order to end Iraq's occupation of Kuwait and the presence of foreign forces in the region.

He pointed out: We have previously stated that on the basis of general international laws, the Islamic Republic of Iran will impound the aircraft and ships of both warring sides that come to Iran and will not allow them to return until the end of the war.

Several Delegations To Hold Talks in Tehran

LD3101112691 Tehran IRNA in English 1038 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 31, IRNA—Four high-ranking delegations from Iraq, France, Yemen and Algeria are expected here within the next 12 hours for talks on the Persian Gulf war.

It is said that Iraqi Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Sa'dun Hammadi [title as received] will lead the Iraqi delegation.

Other delegations to arrive here will be headed by Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmed Ghazali, Secretary General of France's Foreign Ministry Francois Scheer and the deputy foreign minister of Yemen.

The delegations are to hold separate talks with the high-ranking Iranian officials on ways to end the war.

Hungarian Embassy Adviser Reviews Iraqi Planes

AU3001160391 Budapest NEPSZABADSAG in Hungarian 29 Jan 91 p 2

[Interview with Laszlo Fodor, adviser at the Hungarian Embassy, and Amin Sabuni, foreign policy columnist for KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL, by staff correspondents on 28 January; place not given: "The Airplanes Will Not Be Returned"]

[Text] [Fodor] So far, some 40 to 50 Iraqi combat aircraft have landed in Iran.

[NEPSZABADSAG] How have the official Iranian forums reacted to the landing of Iraqi airplanes?

[Fodor] The Foreign Ministry in Teheran also dealt with the issue over the weekend. Iran protested against the Iraqi violation of Iranian airspace, but repeatedly confirmed that the Iranian leadership continued its policy of active neutrality in the Gulf war. According to the official stand, damaged aircraft or aircraft approaching for an emergency landing are allowed to land at Iranian airports. Teheran does not wish to return the airplanes or their pilots to any of the sides until the end of the war. Several of the Iraqi airplanes that arrived in Iran were damaged, and one even exploded. The fact that Iraqi combat aircraft are landing in such large numbers in Iran is a radically new phenomenon, and only rumors have emerged so far about the reasons behind this phenomenon.

[NEPSZABADSAG] Is it possible that the Iraqis wanted to desert?

[Fodor] I personally would not exclude this possibility. Besides, Teheran has announced that some airplanes of the Iraqi Airways are also on Iranian territory. These airplanes arrived in Iran under a bilateral agreement before the war. There are also Iraqi civilian aircraft in India, Ethiopia, and Sudan.

[Sabuni] The Iranian Government has already expressed its position on with this issue. Iran will not return the airplanes before a cease-fire is reached. Unfortunately, we do not know any more, but believe me, we are as interested in this affair as you are.

[NEPSZABADSAG] In your opinion, did the Iraqi airplanes desert, or is this some kind of provocation?

[Sabuni] I do not think that there is some provocation here. There can be many explanations, including the fact that the airplanes ran out of fuel during combat missions and that this caused them to land here. The problem is that this happened on Iranian territory.

[NEPSZABADSAG] In your view, can one imagine Iran interfering in the conflict on Iraq's side?

[Sabuni] At the moment, I think that this is impossible. However, who knows what the next day will bring....

Secret Deal With Iraq Claimed Prior to War

TA3101130591 (Clandestine) Iran's Flag of Freedom Radio in Persian 0645 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Station commentary]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] The Islamic Republic held secret talks with Iraq through a high-ranking Iraqi delegation to Tehran, which comprised 'Izzat Ibrahim, the number two man in Iraq's Revolution Command Council; Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz; the minister of transport and communications; and the deputy oil minister. Four days after this delegation returned to Iraq—namely, on 14 January—at least 18 Iraqi passenger aircraft of the Boeing 707, 727, and 747 types were initially transferred to Mashhad, Esfahan, and Tehran airports, followed by a number of Iraqi warplanes.

Two days later the Gulf war broke out, and by the end of the first week, at least 200 Iraqi war planes had landed at Iran's military airfields.

Compatriots! The Flag of Freedom Organization revealed for the first time the news of the transfer of the Iraqi planes and informed the Iranian nation of this event. The Islamic Republic kept silent in the face of the report on the transfer of the Iraqi planes to Iranian territory. Then, after the entire world became aware of the presence of more than 100 Iraqi planes at Iranian airports, the Islamic Republic acknowledged the presence of 11 Iraqi planes on Iranian territory. When it became clear that the issue was far more than 11 planes and that the Islamic Republic was aware of the possible consequences of the matter, the game of deceit and trickery was renewed.

The Islamic Republic protested to Iraq in a diplomatic move, and its UN delegate lodged a complaint against Iraq with Perez de Cuellar. Yet the pages of the regime's newspapers were devoted to attacking Iraq's foes and preparing the Iranian nation to accept the consequences of the secret agreement with Iraq.

Dear compatriots, the Iranian nation can never attach the slightest value to such an agreement between the Islamic Republic and Saddam's regime. The Iranian nation does not attach any value whatsoever to secret agreements. The final analysis of a review of the Islamic Republic regime's deeds proves the disgrace of a regime that is drowning through infighting and the puppet shows it is staging, so that in the end it will plunge into the depths of destruction.

Western Analysts Say Iraqi War Machine 'Intact'

LD3101125691 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Unidentified correspondent's report from London]

[Text] At the end of two weeks of military operations by the multinational forces in Kuwait and Iraq, independent analysts in their first assessments say that the

United States and its allies have failed to achieve their expected strategic success. The U.S. authorities, including the President himself, have engaged in extensive propaganda to claim success and superiority for the multinational forces. However, [independent] experts, paying attention to the tremendous volume of air force, advanced missile units, vessels deployed in the Red Sea and the Persian Gulf, and the heavy volume of bombing and missile attacks, consider that Iraq's defensive and military resistance demonstrate the weakness of the U.S. military might. The same experts, considering the extent of civilian casulties in Iraq and the devastation of nonmilitary, industrial, and economic targets in Iraq, stress that the Iraqi military machine remains intact and that the air defense system and airforce of that country are also still trustworthy in its effectiveness and activity. The Iraqi ground forces in Kuwait also enjoy a high morale and assault initiative. This has been demonstrated in the surprise attack against al-Khafji in the last two days.

Western experts have called the al-Khafji operation a crucial point in the muliliation of the multinational forces which remain powerless in front of only one Iraqi mechanized battalion and which have still failed to recapture the small border town of al-Khafji despite sustaining casualties and losses.

Western sources stress that the present war in the Persian gulf is a political war with political aims and in this regard, Iraq has managed to inflict political blows on the U.S. propaganda system by further extending U.S. military objectives in the region. On the other hand, with the disclosure of the long-term strategic objectives of the Western states in the region, British Prime Minister John Major for the first time threatened that even after the withdrawal of the Iraqi forces from Kuwait, the military operations of the multinational forces against Iraq will be continued. He predicted that some of the foreign forces in the region may remain in the region. The British premier's remarks are considered to be the first public sign of the long term objectives of the foreign forces in the region and their prolonged stay there.

Iraqi Pilots Reportedly Want To Go To Turkey

LD3001151991 Tehran IRNA in English 1342 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 30, IRNA—The Turkish Embassy here today categorically denied a claim by Istanbul-based daily MILLIYET that Iraqi pilots who are in Iran want to go to Turkey.

The daily claimed that the Iraqi pilots who have made emergency landings in Iran have called on the authorities in Tehran to send them to Turkey.

The pilots' requests have been submitted to the officials of the Turkish Embassy in Tehran, MILLIYET claimed.

Asked whether the embassy had received any such requests by the Iraqi pilots, Third Secretary of the Turkish Embassy Basat Ozture, reached by telephone told IRNA, "definitely not".

Commentary Urges Turkey To Adopt 'Realistic Policy'

NC3001172891 Tehran International Service in Turkish 1700 GMT 29 Jan 91

[Unattributed commentary: "The Persian Gulf War and the Trap Set for Turkey"]

[Excerpts] As the war in the Persian Gulf becomes increasingly complicated, the multinational forces headed by the United States are looking for new ways to bring about a complete destruction of Iraq. [passage omitted]

The United States is seeking to increase its pressure on the Iraqi Armed Forces by opening a new front against Iraq in the north of that country. This can only be achieved if Turkey, in addition to placing several of its bases at the disposal of the United States, agrees to allow its armed forces and NATO military units to cross into northern Iraq. NATO's interests are being considered above all else, and Turkey's obligations as a NATO member have created an extremely sensitive situation for it. The United States is using these obligations to make Turkey become involved in the war against Iraq. The European members of NATO regard Turkey as a shield protecting them from any untoward development. They attach great importance to Turkey's involvement in the war because this would allow them to keep their distance from the horrible scenes of fighting. These countries impatiently want Turkey to become involved in the war as soon as possible.

Political observers believe, however, that the NATO countries will not be able to help Turkey compensate for the serious losses of life and property it may suffer should it become involved in the war. The Turkish Government is already facing serious economic and social problems created by the large-scale migration of people from southeastern Turkey because of fears of a chemical attack by Iraq. The panic resulting from fears that Iraq may attack the region with chemical weapons has reached such a point that people are sealing their windows and doors. Fourteen people have suffocated to death in their homes in Siirt and Batman.

Recent developments should indicate just how far the NATO countries will go in fulfilling their promises should Turkey decide to take part in the war. Although it has lost at least $10 billion since the outbreak of the Persian Gulf crisis, Western countries have failed to keep their promises to help Turkey. In fact, President Turgut Ozal has criticized them on more than one occasion for failing to keep their promises.

The situation in the region is becoming increasingly complicated. The United States has fallen into a quagmire in the Persian Gulf war. Other countries, and Turkey in particular, must realize that they have to adopt a realistic policy to avoid a similar fate.

Yes, it is possible to avoid such a quagmire and save the lives of many people. To do this requires a realistic policy that does not succumb to outside provocation.

Turkey's Moves for Post-War Concessions Viewed

NC2801082391 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0445 GMT 28 Jan 91

[Central News Unit Research Group commentary]

[Text] In the name of God. The Turkish Council of Ministers convened to discuss a response to Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz' recent letter. In the letter, Tariq 'Aziz vehemently protested to Turkey that it had permitted Western forces to use its bases for attacks on Iraq, terming it a shameless and hostile act. In answer to the Iraqi foreign minister's message, Turkey in turn declared that it rejected all of Baghdad's allegations that Turkey had adopted a hostile stance. The Turkish foreign minister said the United States was using Turkish territory for military purposes in accordance with UN resolutions, and added that no change in policy should be anticipated.

The unprecedented military movement on the Iraqi-Turkish border, as well as the Turkish Government's contradictory stance on Iraq's territorial integrity, heightens the possibility that this country has territorial designs on the oil-rich Kirkuk region. In any case, if Turkey wants to extort considerable concessions from the United States at any cost, once the war ends it will not content itself merely with permitting U.S. planes to use the bases in Turkey, assuming that the countries standing to benefit have no objections.

Attaining this objective requires a more active participation in the war on the part of Turkey. For this purpose, the opening of a second front against Iraq on Turkish soil can be considered the precursor to a more serious plan to reach this Turkish objective. Of course, Turkey's opening of a front on its soil and entering the war, which could bring serious concomitant repercussions, will also contravene the West's claim that it wants to limit the extent of the war.

In addition, the usurpation of the territory of an independent country is a blatant violation of international law which will be totally unacceptable from a country that professes to participate in the war for the purpose of implementing the UN resolutions. At home, the recent Turkish stance, which betrays a warmongering posture, has not generated the desired reaction among the public or among the hierarchy.

The resignation of the Turkish foreign minister and the chief of the Army Staff, and the opposition of more than 80 percent of the people to Turkey's entry into the war illustrates only a fragment of this opposition. From the perspective of political analysts, it appears that Turkish President Turgut Ozal, who has meddled in Turkish foreign policy beyond the scope of his powers ever since the occupation of Kuwait, has linked his political position to the hopes of extracting considerable political concessions from the West.

In any case, according to political observers, the appending of Kirkuk to Turkey will be as tempting as the annexation of Kuwait to Iraq. Through an intensive assessment, we can easily comprehend the consequences of these fantasies.

Commerce Minister Terms Prices 'Unreasonable'

LD2801122191 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 28 Jan 91

[Interview with Iranian Commerce Minister Abdol Vahaji by unidentified reporter on 28 January; place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Announcer] Iranian Commerce Minister Mr. Abdol Vahaji said in an interview with correspondents today: Out of 62 merchant ships in our country's southern waters, 39 ships are unloading their goods in the Iranian ports.

In an interview with our correspondent, the commerce minister said: The recent price rises for some commodities and foodstuffs are artificial and cannot be justified in economic terms. He went on:

[Vahaji] We believe these price rises for some essential goods are unreasonable and cannot be justified in economic terms. There is a war outside Iran's borders and there are some agents who intend to exploit the situation and the opportunity it creates. The government has so far had no difficulty in the supply and distribution of the essential commodities. The government's programs will, therefore, continue as before. In addition to meeting the promises we have made to the people, we have permitted factories to acquire their raw materials, for production up to their full capacity, by obtaining foreign currency at the competitive rate. We have even allocated higher shares to the industrial and guild units, which we announced for sugar production. We shall announce similar regulations for cooking oil.

Beans are distributed among wholeslaers, and the people can purchase their requirements. We have even allowed allocation of foreign currency for production of washing powders and soups. Since the competitive exchange rate is reduced from 80 tomans to 60 tomans [per U.S. dollar], it is expected to see lower commodity prices. This is another reason which can bring the situation to a more logical and favorable state.

[Correspondent] What has been the effect of the present situation in the Persian Gulf on the ships arrival and departure from the Islamic Republic of Iran's ports?

[Vahaji] Generally, we have not had any difficulty in the movement of our ships in the Persian Gulf waters. Our consignments are transported in the most normal and desirable manner. We now have 62 ships on these

waters, which are either unloading or waiting to unload their goods. About 29 of these ships are carrying essential goods, the figure for which is 1.2 million tonnes of essential goods. We have had no difficulty so far and we do not predict difficulties in future, either.

Industries Minister Reports Non-Oil Exports Up

LD2801065891 Tehran IRNA in English 0547 GMT 28 Jan 91

[Text] Mashhad, Khorasan Prov., Jan. 28, IRNA—Export of non-oil goods in the first three quarters of the current Iranian year (to end March 20) increased by 60 percent compared to the same period last year, said Minister of Industries Mohammad Reza Nematzadeh here Sunday.

The minister who is visiting the province, added that in continuation of government policy of allowing public greater involvement in industrial and production activities, 30 industries have been put on stock exchange and everyday rls. 100 million worth of shares of industries are available to the public.

He added that shares of an additional 20 production units will become available to the public within the next two months.

Cabinet Instructions on Persian Gulf Pollution

LD2701181291 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 Jan 91

[Text] The cabinet of the Islamic Republic of Iran has expressed its deep concern over the pollution in parts of maritime regions of the Persian Gulf. The cabinet has instructed the Organization for the Protection of the Environment and other responsible organs to take necessary measures to control and contain of this pollution that has been created.

TV Feature Shows IRGC Air Force Hardware

LD3001193491

[Editorial Report] Tehran IRIB Television Network in Persian at 1520 GMT on 30 January as part of the regular Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [IRGC] program carries a 5-minute feature on the IRGC air force.

With accompanying video showing Iranian-produced missiles, shells, antipersonnel mines, and grenades, the narrator says that the IRGC air force missile units proved their value during the war against Iraq.

Continuing, the narrator says that the IRGC has recently been equipped with fighter aircraft and a number of SAM 6 missiles. Accompanying video shows what appears to be a battery of three such missiles with a mobile radar station.

In conclusion the narrator notes that the IRGC has been effective in the development of military hardware.

90 Foreign Refugees Arrive From Iraq

LD2901165191 Tehran IRNA in English 1527 GMT 29 Jan 91

[Text] Bakhtaran, Jan. 29, IRNA—A total of 90 foreign nationals residing in Iraq, arrived in the Islamic republic of Iran through Khosravi border today.

The group including European, African and Arab nationals were settled in a temporary camp. They will be transferred to another camp after completion of the quarantine regulations.

Some Gulf Waters Off Limits for Fishermen

LD2701234991 Tehran IRNA in English 1436 GMT 27 Jan 91

[Text] Bushehr, Jan. 27, IRNA—Fishing boats will not be permitted to venture out to certain parts of the Persian Gulf as a precautionary measure, said a provincial fisheries official here Sunday.

He said the oastal area between Bahrgan Sar and Hendijan and the Khur Musa Channel [place name as received] as well as the waters around oil platforms and a 5 km area around Kharg Island, have been declared off limits to local fishermen.

He also advised fisherman against going out in international waters because of the war, and said fishing can however continue in the coastal waters of Bushehr, Basidaq [place name as received], Deilam [place name as received], and Rostami.

In related news, customs officials have said that commercial boats will be allowed to sail only for Dubayy, and that exit permission will not be granted for other Persian Gulf states at present.

Joint Aluminum Plant To Be Set Up With UAE

LD2801184391 Tehran IRNA in English 1625 GMT 28 Jan 91

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 28, IRNA—Industrial companies of Iran and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) have agreed to set up an aluminium processing plant in the southern port city of Bandar-e 'Abbas.

The 'Al-Mahdi Aluminium Plant', which will have an annual capacity of 220,000 tons, is the first and biggest joint venture after the approval of the first five-year economic plan by the Majlis.

The contract was signed between the companies affiliated to the Iranian Mines and Metals Ministry, and the A.D.C. Company in Dubayy, with the Lloyds Bank selected as the financial consultant.

Pakistan Prime Minister on Visit to Tehran

Meets Hasemi-Rafsanjani

LD2201170891 Tehran IRIB Television Network in Persian 1600 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] Pakistani Prime Minister Mr. Nawaz Sharif was received this afternoon by Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the president of the republic. They exchanged views on the latest developments in the Persian Gulf region and the expansion of relations between Iran and Pakistan.

Addressing the Pakistani prime minister during the meeting, Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani emphasized that under existing conditions Muslims expect closer cooperation among Islamic countries. He also said: Your swift action in confronting the terrorists who were intent on disrupting relations between Iran and Pakistan was very useful; it had a very desirable impact on our people. The interests of the two countries require that we continue to make efforts to expand our ties.

Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani also placed emphasis on strengthening tripartite cooperation among Iran, Pakistan, and Turkey. He added: We are interested in expanding these ties and in making the economic cooperation organization more active.

On the need for closer cooperation betwen Iran and Pakistan in solving the problem of Afghanistan, the president said: We believe that we should not wait for others to solve the problem of the suffering Afghan nation. We must cooperate to take effective measures together as soon as possible in the interests of the region and Afghanistan. He also stressed the need for solving the problem of the Muslim people of Kashmir.

Continuing his remarks, Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani expressed concern over the Persian Gulf crisis. he said: It is imperative that we step up our efforts to put an end to the sorry state of affairs in the region as soon as possible. This is the legitimate expectation of the people of the region and the Muslims of the world.

Mr. Nawaz Sharif termed the martyrdom of Ganji a bitter and unpalatable event for the two Iranian and Pakistani nations. He said: We deeply regret that unhappy event and thank God that the perptrators were arrested. We are determined to wage a serious campaign against such crimes and their roots.

The prime minister of Pakistan added: We are in agreement with the view of your excellency on bilateral issues and the problems of the region and the Persian Gulf crisis. We feel that, because of the mistake of a single individual, the people of Iraq are under the most serious pressures. Meanwhile, Israel and the enemies of Islam are profiting from the crisis. We hope the conspiracy of America and Israel in this region meets with failure.

Referring to the timely initiative of the Islamic Republic of Iran on calling for the meeting of the Islamic Conference, the Pakistani prime minister added: We support your excellency's initiative. We believe we must put an end to this crisis through the help of all the Islamic countries and in the interests of the Islamic ummah. He also presented best greetings and respects from the Pakistani president. He informed Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani of the official invitation of Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan, president of Pakistan, to him to make a state visit to Pakistan. Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani accepted the invitation.

Discusses Purchasing More Oil

LD2201180191 Tehran IRNA in English 1521 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 22, IRNA—Ways of expanding economic and technical cooperation between Tehran and Islamabad were discussed by visiting Pakistani Minister of Petroleum and Natural Resources Nisar Ali Khan and Oil Minister Gholam Reza Aqazadeh, here Tuesday [22 January].

The Pakistani minister showed interest in purchase of more crude oil from Iran, which Aqazadeh promised to consider.

Nisar Ali Khan is part of a delegation which arrived here today led by Prime Minister Mohammad Nawaz Sharif.

Ends Visit, Leaves for Ankara

LD2301094191 Tehran IRNA in English 0821 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 23, IRNA—Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif wound up his one day visit to Tehran and left here for Ankara, Turkey this morning. Speaking to reporters before departure, Sharif termed the outcome of this talks with Iranian officials on restoration of peace and security to the region as "useful and constructive". He said Iran and Pakistan shared the same views on all the regional and international issues they discussed. Sharif also said the two sides had agreed to promote cooperation in all areas. He said he will also visit Turkey, Syria and Egypt and will inform the Iranian leaders of the outcome of his talks in these countries on the Persian Gulf war.

Sharif was seen off at the airport by First Vice-President Hassan Habibi.

Indian External Affairs Minister Visits Tehran

President Welcomes Peace Efforts

BK2601161691 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 26 Jan 91

[Text] The Iranian president, Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani, has welcomed India's efforts to activate the Nonaligned Movement to halt the fighting in the Gulf. Mr. Rafsanjani's remarks came during talks with the external affairs minister, Mr. V.C. Shukla, in Tehran.

Mr. Shukla also met the Iranian foreign minister, Mr. 'Ali Akbar Velayati. Both the foreign ministers felt that

the presence of foreign forces in the region poses threat to the peace and stability of the region.

Shukla Plans To Discuss Gulf

LD2501231191 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 25 Jan 91

[Text] Mr Vidya Charan Shukla, the Indian foreign minister, arrived in Tehran on Friday night for a 24-hour visit. He was welcomed by Mr. Velatati, the foreign minister. According to the Central News Unit, in a brief interview at Mehrabad Airport [Tehran], the Indian foreign minister said that the purpose of his trip to Tehran is to exchange views about the current Persian Gulf War, and to talk about bilateral ties between Iran and India.

He said that, as an important member of the Nonaligned Movement, Iran's views are of special importance for the movement's decisionmaking. He added that, during his visit, he will hold talks with Iranian officials, within the framework of current efforts in the Nonaligned Movement, to end the current war in the Persian Gulf as soon as possible.

Commentary India Ties, Security

NC1901003091 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 12 Jan 91 p 22

[Taj Mohammad Kazemi commentary: "India's Realism on a Regional Security System"]

[Text] "Major powers that until yesterday protected their interests through rivalry against each other, have today reached understanding through mutual cooperation. Under such conditions, countries of the third world, and especially regional countries, should work together to protect their own interests and national security." The Indian deputy external affairs minister said this in an interview with correspondents in Tehran.

At the end of the cold war, the bell began to toll for all those who continued to walk on the ice of the East Bloc. New Delhi too—which was the Kremlin's traditional ally in the Indian subcontinent and the greatest obstacle to the expansion of Washington's infiltration in the region—now feels that the ice under its feet is rapidly melting, and so it is searching for its interests and national security elsewhere. The recent visit by the deputy external affairs minister of India to Tehran and his meetings and talks with our country's high-ranking officials concerning a new regional security system can be studied within this context.

The Indian official's remarks in Tehran that his country preferred to seek the views of the Islamic Republic of Iran first on this issue shows that New Delhi has understood the existing reality in the region.

It is by realizing this reality that India, which is one of the world's notable powers and the prime mover of the Nonaligned Movement, has recognized Iran as a country that practices nonalignment not in words but in deeds. And the fact that Iran was granted priority shows that this is what the New Delhi officials feel.

Apparently the main reason behind India's interest in participating in a regional security system stems from the fact that the policies of the Kremlin and of the White House are moving in the same direction and the fact that China and Pakistan—which have always had border problems with India—are converging toward each other.

In view of the extremely sensitive and historic role that Iran has played in the formation of new regional equations, what approach should our country have toward this desire on the part of India?

Apparently, the poor condition of Muslims in India is one of the main obstacles to the expansion of relations between Iran and India. As also stated by President Hashemi-Rafsanjani during the Indian deputy external affairs minister's visit: "If the Muslims in India feel more secure, cooperation between the world of Islam and India will increase and, if these two points are achieved, it will be to the benefit of all."

India, which has more than 100 million Muslims and is today rightly "calling for more cooperation with the Islamic Republic of Iran as a country that enjoys a major position in the region and in the world" should accept the fact that Islamic Iran is interested in the fate of all Muslims of the world and that it considers this as a factor in its foreign policy.

At any rate, in view of the developments in the region and the fact that regional policies are converging toward these developments, close cooperation between these two independent regional powers opens a new chapter in the history of regional cooperation. The statement by the Indian deputy external affairs minister during his visit to Tehran that "a few strong and united countries are better than a large but uncoordinated group" speaks of India's disappointment with the Nonaligned Movement and its inclination toward regional unions.

New Delhi, which is seeking to fulfill its wishes in Tehran today, should accept the reality that even though the Islamic Republic of Iran is not committed to any power, nevertheless it is fully committed to the world of Islam and includes the regional Islamic countries within this framework too. Indian statesmen may assess these countries on the basis of their rulers' relations with foreign powers, but the Islamic Republic of Iran considers that any true regional alliance can be achieved not on the basis of who these rulers associate with but through the growth and spread of revolutionary Islam among the Muslim masses.

Commentary Views U.S.-Soviet Ties, Gulf Role

LD2901212291 Tehran in English to Europe 1930 GMT 29 Jan 91

[Unattributed commentary]

[text] According to the dispatches, following the meeting of the Soviet foreign minister, Aleksandr Bessmertnykh, and the U.S. President, George Bush, U.S. Secretary of State James Baker and Bessmertnykh announced the postponement to the first half of this year of the East-West summit, which was scheduled for February 11 through to 13 next.

Baker said: The summit was postponed due to the need for Bush's presence in the White House in the course of the Persian Gulf war. At the same time he also attributed noncompletion of draft of the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty, START, which was expected to be signed during the summit, as another reason for the delay in the Moscow summit.

In the opinion of analysts of the (?summoned) issues, the real reason for the delay in the East-West summit in Moscow, prior to having any link to the reasons enumerated by Baker in his interview yesterday, mostly stems from the [word indistinct] position in the Persian Gulf war. The U.S. Government, which expected to defeat the Iraqi regime with a lightning attack in the very first days of the war, is gradually finding its war plans as failing after the laps of long and tough days. Hence it is now preparing itself for a full- scale war on the ground and in the air.

For this reason George Bush prefers to proceed to Moscow after deciding the fate of the Persian Gulf war in favor of America. In fact, in order to be able to plan a new power equation in the Middle East region,he wants to gain a position of strength from where he may [word indistinct] face to face with his former rival and present ally.

Meanwhile, the Kremlin officials still prefer that Bush travel to Moscow at a time when they come out successful in completely silencing the uprising in the Baltic republics. The reason is that any sort of weakness in this regard can act as privilege for the other side. However, it should not be ignored that at present there are signs of an undeclared agreement between America and the Soviet Union over the Persian Gulf and the Baltic republics.

Washington is benefitting from the Soviet silence over the present situation in the Persian Gulf war, and they also have been using military and economic data supplied by Moscow on Iraq. reciprocally, Moscow is being favored with the soft posture of America and its allies, vis-a-vis suppression of the independent-seekers in the Baltic republics.

Although posturings of these two countries' officials in recent days points to certain rifts between them on the matter of dealing with these problems, these differences have been mostly related to the mode of approach toward the Persian Gulf crisis and the ultimate fate of the Baltic republics have no link whatsoever to strategic and major issues, and their bilateral relations. Political observers believe that the nonannouncement of a date for Bush's visit to Moscow is on account of the unclear situation of the Persian Gulf war. The result of the ongoing war will certainly play a determining role in this respect, because presently Washington chooses not to [word indistinct] know when the war [words indistinct].

Paper Assesses Postwar Future of Region

NC3001152491 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 17 Jan 91 pp 1, 2

[Political commentary: "The Persian Gulf War and the Future of the Region"]

[Text] Finally, 168 days after the beginning of the aggression against Kuwait and the extensive political wavering between war and peace, the balance of the crisis has tilted toward war. Only 17 hours after the expiration of the Security Council deadline, the explosions of bombs jettisoned from the gargantuan American B-52's resounded in Baghdad. The Iraqi Armed Forces retaliated with missile attacks on Saudi oil and economic installations.

The following certain observations on the devastating battle in the Persian Gulf may be mentioned:

1. More than ever before, Saddam's glaring error in attacking Kuwait is being clearly highlighted. This aggression provided the best possible opportunity for the United States, so that with a massive act of aggression in the region, it deployed hundreds of thousands of troops and a vast quantity of lethal weapons in this strategic and sensitive region of the world. Now that the war has started, it has a free hand to pillage the economic and military resources of the Muslim Iraqi people and to change the balance in favor of Israel. The destruction of Kuwait's natural resources at the hands of Iraq will also be to the benefit of the longstanding aspirations of imperialism and Zionism.

2. The most regrettable aspect of the issue is that innocent citizens of the involved countries of the region will be sacrificed. They will burn in the war flames for no reason and will only reap great devastation and destruction. Was the Iraqi attack on Kuwait in accordance with the ideals of Islam and the people? Will the extensive U.S. military presence in the region and the initiation of an extraordinarily destructive war between the United States and Iraq ensure the interests of the Muslim people of the region?

3. The United States and the reactionary shaykhs of the region—who for years aided and abetted Saddam against Iran, and who armed Saddam's regime in an unprecedented manner—are the ones to be condemned the most, even though they deem the invasion of Kuwait by Saddam as a logical reason for initiating a war and attacking Iraq.

4. Despite the initiation of a war, the logical and principled stance of the Islamic Republic of Iran—based on the unconditional withdrawal of Iraq from Kuwait and the unconditional return of the foreign forces deployed in the region to their home countries—still is good. On the one hand, Iraq should be persuaded to depart from

the land of Kuwait, and, on the other, the United States should be convinced to cease its destructive war and to leave the region. Only then can the United Nations be considered a suitable authority for making the necessary decisions for the chastisement of the transgressors.

5. The United States should realize that its extensive presence in the region will have very dangerous long-term and short-term repercussions for the Americans and that the Muslim nations of the region will not remain silent spectators. As for remarks by some Americans that the Persian Gulf will not be another Vietnam, these may be absolutely correct. It will definitely be much worse and far more destructive than Vietnam.

6. Strict news censorship and the dissemination of one-sided news reports of the conflict by the U.S. and Western news agencies are characteristics worth noting regarding the war which has been initiated in the Persian Gulf. This censorship can sway public opinion, especially in the United States and Europe, to the benefit of the front fighting against Iraq and can keep the world ignorant of the extent of the destruction and casualties of the warring sides. Without any doubt, the Muslim nations and the oppressed Iraqi people will stand to lose the most from this Western censorship.

7. The present U.S. strategy, based on a limited war with far-reaching reaching repercussions, which should be an intensive and short-term conflict, does not rule out the possibility that the war will be prolonged. If the United States is unable to terminate the war to its benefit in a short time, it will face an ambiguous future fraught with unforeseen problems, the most dangerous of which will be the eruption of the volcanic fury of the nations against the United States and the reactionary governments of the region.

8. It appears that the Iraqi regime has forfeited all chances for peace by striving to preserve itself in position in Iraq and that it does not have more than two options: A. To resist as far as possible, and B. To concede defeat and to fall from power. If it manages to gain some initial successes, however, it can be hopeful of staying in power for a while.

9. The Islamic Republic of Iran's alertness regarding the war in the Persian Gulf is extremely vital and essential for the safeguarding of our revolutionary and national interests. With all readiness, our Armed Forces should keep a vigilant watch on everything, and, in the event of any kind of threat or aggression by any of the warring sides, they should react appropriately.

It is also possible that the Americans may consider the present situation a favorable opportunity to extort political concessions from Iran, in which case they will get a categorical and revolutionary response from our nation.

Commentary Analyzes U.S. Gulf War Strategies

NC3101173791 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 19 Jan 91 p 2

[Political commentary entitled "A War With Two Losers" by Mohammad 'Ali Mo'alla]

[Excerpts] Nowadays, the stances that the Islamic Republic of Iran adopted many years ago, especially the remarks by the late imam (may God be pleased with him), are being accepted as correct by the enemies of Iran, especially Saddam himself, who is using the same slogans against his former mentors and presentday enemies that we raised in the eight years of war against him. In fact, it appears at times that the Iraqi "Sawt al-Jamahir" ["Voice of the Masses"] radio has translated the Islamic Republic of Iran's military communiques into Arabic and merely changed the signature. [passage omitted]

A cursory glance at the United States' favored path after the advent of the Islamic Revolution to reach its objectives in the Persian Gulf will give a correct perspective to our readers:

1. The best way for the Americans to reach their desired objectives would be by appointing another gendarme in the region after the shah, but none of the countries seem to possess the desired qualifications to assume the role. Thus the United States is forced to take a step back in its neocolonialistic aspirations and, by assuming this role itself, use its forces to crush Saddam.

2. By staking its international prestige and reputation, the United States then tries to go to the next phase; that is, getting Saddam to succumb to the threats of the United States, which is backed by the United Nations, and surrender unconditionally. He then would align himself with U.S. interests in the region, and with this relative preservation of power in Iraq, the balance of the region would be disrupted to the detriment of the Islamic Revolution. However, with his obduracy, Saddam has defeated these U.S. designs in this phase. Of course, if the United States could have its way, it would definitely strive to install a coupist government of its own choice in place of Saddam and achieve its own objectives.

3. At the present juncture and with the advent of war, the United States envisioned a short-term strategy, but for the reasons listed below, it will not be able to recover from the damages of a prolonged war:

A. The morale of the people of the United States and of the allied countries is such that they do not have the strength to bear the brunt of heavy casualties. In the short term, there is a greater possibility of keeping the people ignorant of the exact statistics by censoring the mass media. However, in a prolonged war, it is not possible to conceal facts and figures for long. Second, in conditions of censorship, the people will lose their faith in the censored reports of the Western press and news agencies, and will believe only the news given out by the

Iraqis. The psychological war in the reports disseminated by Baghdad will obviously put the Westerners in a more vulnerable position.

The American militarists' paranoia about the dissemination of reports on the war is such that not only have the news agencies been denied direct access to reports, but their commentaries and analyses on the censored reports are also prohibited. In an interview, U.S. Defense Secretary Dick Cheney told correspondents: "In view of the serious nature of the military operations, there should be no speculation or estimates aired on the operations or their level of success."

B. The trump card of the U.S. and allied military forces is a most modern technology and weaponry, as well as their air power, which in the initial stages of the war confirmed their superiority, with the result that the ground forces will be rendered less effective. However, the particular political or cultural differences among the multinational forces will diminish their cohesion and reduce the chances for a decisive victory in the short term. In particular, the American forces should keep themselves away from the reach of the Muslim troops in their coalition as there already have been reports of mass killings of American forces by Muslim soldiers. These reports will only instill fear and dread among the Western troops in contrast with the organizational skills and dynamism of the Iraqi troops.

In conclusion of the above, the defeat of Saddam can only be achieved after the West sustains heavy casualties. The United States will lose its superpower prestige and sway because of this war.

Majles Approves Budget Bill, Amendments

LD2901225491 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 29 Jan 91

[Excerpt] After many sessions debating the budget bill and its many amendments, the Majles approved the 1370 [year starting 21 March] budget bill. We draw you attention to our correspondent's report on this matter.

In Tuesday evening's open session of the Majles, that was chaired by Mr. Hashemian, the deputy speaker, the 1370 budget bill was approved. One of the articles of the bill says: The 1370 budget of the country covers the country's income and sources of credit to the value of over 20,075,832,101,000 rials. It also concerns the nation's spending and other payments of over 20,075,832,101,000 rials. Public income and other sources of credit: over 8,641,758,135,000 rials, costs and other payments from that source: 8,641,758,135,000 rials.

Further, the economic income of the ministries and governments institutions comes to 614,783,605,000 rials. Costs and other payments from the said source: 614,783,605,000 rials.

Budget of state-owned companies, banks and other institutions affiliated to the government, their income and other sources of credit: over 12,034,783,263,000 rials. Their spending and other payments: over 12,034,773,263,000 rials.

Final alterations in the bill concerning current spending: 5,927,395,023,000 rials. Cost for development projects: 2,714,363,112,000 rials. Total income: 7,506,871,150,000 rials. [passage omitted]

UK Court Witnesses 'Forced To Return To Iran'

LD2801161191 Tehran IRNA in English 1517 GMT 28 Jan 91

[Text] London, Jan. 28, IRNA—Nine Iranian witnesses who arrived here early Sunday to attend the trial of the jailed Iranian student Mehrdad Kowkabi, were forced to return to Iran right from the Heathrow Airport.

The British officials at the airport did not guarantee the security of the witnesses against any arrest, despite the valid visas they held and the presence of the Iranian charge d'affaires at the airport.

Kowkabi, a PhD student at the Manchester University, has been in jail since 13 months ago. His trial started in the central court of London two weeks ago.

He is alleged to have been involved in bomb explosions and arson at three bookshops displaying the blasphemous book "The Satanic Verses".

In related news, the British embassy in Tehran regretted the delay of the Iranian witnesses at Heathrow, attributing it to "immigration service bureaucratic procedures at a time of heightened alert at British ports and airports because of the crisis in the Persian Gulf."

The embassy said in a statement today that the delay was not intended as a snub to the visitors, who it said were given permission to enter Britain. "The decision to return to Iran was theirs, not the British government's," it added.

The statement said the embassy stands ready to do anything possible to resolve "this unfortunate development," and to enable the witnesses to attend the trial of Mehrdad Kowkabi.

Nepal & Bhutan

Nepal

PRC Embassy Reacts 'Strongly' to Dalai Lama Visit

BK2901052091 Hong Kong AFP in English 2217 GMT 28 Jan 91

[Text] Kathmandu, Jan 28 (AFP)—The Chinese Embassy in Kathmandu has reacted strongly to a planned visit to Nepal by Tibet's spiritual leader, the Dalai Lama, in the last week of February.

In stating Beijing's position, embassy press officer Sun Zhengcai called the Dalai Lama—who lives in India—a "political exile" who has been conducting activities aimed at splitting China.

"If the Dalai Lama pays a visit to Nepal, it will be not only a religious activity, but also an event with political motives, and therefore we are resolutely against the Dalai Lama's propsoed visit to Nepal," he said.

Nepal borders on Tibet, scene of a series of bloody riots against Chinese rule since 1987, and more than 15,000 Tibetan refugees have been allowed to settle in the kingdom.

A highly-placed Foreign Ministry source indicated that the Dalai Lama has been asked to put off his visit, as the authorities fear it might create communal friction as Nepal prepares for elections in May. The ministry conveyed the message to the Dalai Lama through the Nepalese Embassy in New Delhi. But the Dalai Lama's unofficial representative here, Paljor Tsering, said he had no knowledge of a cancellation.

"Therefore, we are going ahead with our programme preparation," he said. The Dalai Lama has been permitted to visit Nepal only once before, in the late 1970's, to travel to Lumbini, birthplace of Lord Buddha, 60 kilometers (225 miles) southwest of Kathmandu.

PRC Official Speaks at UN Forum in Kathmandu

BK2601131491 Hong Kong AFP in English 1159 GMT 26 Jan 91

[Text] Kathmandu, Jan 26 (AFP)—The huge U.S. and Soviet military presence poses a "grave threat" to the Asia-Pacific region, a Chinese official told a United Nations forum that concluded here Saturday.

Qin Huasun, a director at the Chinese Foreign Ministry, was among the delegates from 21 countries attending the three-day U.N. regional meeting on confidence building measures.

"The United States and the Soviet Union still maintain huge offensive armed forces in the Asia-Pacific region including army, air force and blue water fleets," Mr. Qin said.

"Their presence has posed a grave threat to other countries and exerting a negative influence on the political and security situation in this region."

Participants in the meeting, which took place in the shadow of the Gulf war, concluded by stressing the need to give "positive impetus to arms limitation and disarmament efforts in our part of the world."

During the earlier plenary session, there was wide agreement that states in East and South Asia should adopt a step-by-step approach in building confidence.

The Argentina-Brazil joint declaration on nuclear policy and the India-Pakistan agreement on the non-attack against nuclear facilities were cited as "positive bilateral examples."

Armed Chinese Detained Near Border With Tibet

BK2901101891 Hong Kong AFP in English 1003 GMT 29 Jan 91

[Text] Kathmandu, Jan 29 (AFP)—Seven Armed Chinese nationals have been arrested in Sindhupalchok, on the Tibetan border, and were being detained for questioning, sources said Tuesday.

The authorities were holding the Chinese citizens, who spoke neither English nor Nepali, at the chief district office in nearby Chautara, 110 kilometres (70 miles) northeast of here, the sources said.

They were awaiting the arrival of an interpreter, who left for the district Tuesday, to ascertain why the Chinese nationals were in Nepal, they said.

The authorities did not rule out the possibility that the detainees were seeking asylum in Nepal to avoid arrest in China, an official source said, asking not to be named.

The arrests came amid controversy over the planned visit here by Tibetan spiritual leader the Dalai Lama on February 28.

Following the Chinese Embassy's charges Monday that the proposed visit was politically motivated, the Nepali Government has asked him to postpone it.

The detainees were carrying traditional Chinese weapons when they were arrested Sunday, and had 48 rounds of ammunition, the same source said.

Meanwhile, the Nepali Buddhists Welfare Association has formed a 53-member non-governmental reception committee to welcome to the spiritual leader.

The committee said in a statement Monday that "the Dalai Lama is visiting Nepal for purely religious purpose and the visit has nothing to do with politics."

The Dalai Lama has been allowed into Nepal only once—in the late 1970s—to visit Lumbini, the birthplace of Lord Buddha, 360 kilometres (225 miles) southwest of Kathmandu.

Pakistan

Gulf War, Less Aid Mean 'Economic Nightmare'

BK3001125491 Hong Kong AFP in English 1224 GMT 30 Jan 91

[By Masood Shah]

[Text] Karachi, Jan 30 (AFP)—The Gulf war and a slowdown in aid from the West have turned into an

economic nightmare for Pakistan as it grapples with a massive budget deficit and declining farm exports.

Facing a three billion dollar balance of payments deficit, Pakistan was looking towards its traditional aid donors in the west for emergency funds after the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait pushed up oil prices and cut remittances from Pakistani workers abroad.

But the Gulf war has diverted western attention to those nations in the frontline of the conflict, meaning less aid for Pakistan.

The United States, Pakistan's largest aid donor, in October cut off 530 million dollars of aid because of suspicions that Pakistan was developing nuclear weapons.

Anger at the action led to furious street demonstrations against the United States after the launch of allied air attacks on Iraq.

The Gulf war has compounded Pakistan's serious economic problems because of the estimated 2.5 billion dollar cost in the fiscal year ending June 1991 of lost trade with the Middle East, reduced remittances from expatriates in the Gulf states and a higher oil bill for the year.

Losses from remittances from the Gulf this year are estimated at 700 million dollars, while financial experts say exports may be cut by 500 million because of the war.

Pakistan was hoping to boost exports of cotton, rice and leather but according to Riaz Tata, president of the Karachi Chamber of Commerce and Industry, shipping problems resulting from the war are hampering Pakistan's efforts to cut a trade gap running at 1.1 billion dollars in the second half of 1990.

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) insists Pakistan increase revenues and cut its estimated billion dollar annual budget deficit by April before it will hand over the final tranche of its 1988 structural adjustment loan worth 244 million dollars.

Pakistan has bowed to pressure from the IMF and World Bank to increase some commodity prices, begin the privatisation of the state-owned banks and airline, and deregulate businesses.

But the IMF is still insisting on such measures as a 41 percent hike in rail prices to match a recent rise in domestic petroleum prices.

Finance Minister Sartaj Aziz said the government would rather go without IMF loans than accept conditions that "would be against our national interests."

He said that raising utility and transport prices would cause inflation and make Pakistani goods less competitive on world markets. The official inflation rate has risen from seven per cent to 12 per cent since the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait in August.

According to Mr. Aziz, the IMF conditions would cause a further depreciation of the Pakistani currency, adding to the foreign debt burden. The country would be unable to increase exports to pay the debts because of limited production capacity, Mr. Aziz said.

But IMF officials have remained unmoved by the government's pleas and say that an additional 600 million dollars of emergency loans to offset the effects of the Gulf war will not be handed over until Pakistan reduces its budget deficit to 5.5 per cent of Gross National Product as agreed by the IMF in November 1988.

Pakistan is now seeking some 500 million dollars in loans from the Japanese Government, which is reported to have reacted positively.

Islamabad has also called on the United Nations to make up losses caused by Pakistan's adherence to U.N. sanctions against Iraq and Kuwait.

The government had contacted Saudi Arabia and other Gulf states in a search for more foreign aid, but the Gulf war has hampered these efforts, informed sources said.

Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif said he did not discuss the country's financial problems during his talks last weekend with King Fahd of Saudi Arabia. Pakistan has stationed 10,000 troops with the multinational force in the Kingdom.

The mission was to seek ways of ending the war and the aid problem did not even figure in the talks, Mr Sharif said.

Prime Minister Receives Iraqi, Saudi Envoys

BK3001161191 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] The ambassadors of Iraq and Saudi Arabia have had meetings with Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif in Islamabad to exchange views on the Gulf issue. Talking to the Iraqi ambassador, Isma'il Muhammad Husayn [name as heard], the prime minister said that it is a very appropriate time to make sincere efforts to end the Gulf war. The prime minister assured the Iraqi envoy that he is ready to visit Iraq and meet President Saddam Husayn to establish peace. The Iraqi ambassador said he would establish contact with his government and apprise it of the Pakistani prime minister's desire in this regard. The Iraqi ambassador highly appreciated the prime minister's statesmanship in initiating his peace mission and in his efforts to promote peace. The Iraqi ambassador said no one will have any doubt about the enthusiasm and sincerity with which the prime minister started his peace mission. The prime minister's peace mission also reflects his deep concern for the welfare of Muslims all over the world.

Nawaz Sharif told Saudi Ambassador Yusuf al-Mutabbakani that his talks with King Fahd, the custodian of the two holy mosques, during his recent visit to Saudi Arabia had been positive and constructive. He

expressed the hope that a meeting of the Islamic Conference Organization will be held soon to find ways for an early end to the Gulf war. The Saudi ambassador appreciated the prime minister's mission to end the Gulf war and expressed the hope that his efforts would succeed. The Saudi ambassador referred to Pakistan's principled stand on the Gulf issue and thanked the prime minister for his country's support to and cooperation with Saudi Arabia.

IDA Leaders Urge End to Bombing of Iraq

BK3001160391 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Leaders of the Islamic Democratic Alliance [IDA] have demanded an immediate end to the indiscriminate bombing by allied forces on Iraq and its innocent people. The demand was made in a resolution unanimously adopted at a meeting of the IDA leaders in Islamabad. Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif presided over the meeting. The resolution urged an immediate halt of the Gulf war and the withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait. The resolution called for convening a summit meeting of the Islamic countries to resolve the Gulf dispute through mutual consultations.

Shiite Leader Speaks on Kuwait Liberation

LD2901134991 Tehran IRNA in English 1315 GMT 29 Jan 91

[Text] Islamabad, Jan. 29, IRNA—A prominent Shiite leader on Tuesday described the invasion of the Persian Gulf by the U.S.- West European axis as an "offensive by the West to take hold of the rich oil resources of the region."

"The liberation of Kuwait is just an excuse. The U.S. has brought military forces to the region to dominate the resources of Muslims and to strengthen the zionist reigime by undermining Muslim nations," Allama Seyyed Sajed Ali Naqavi told IRNA.

The leader of Pakistan's Shi'ite community termed Iran's initiative to end the Persian Gulf war as the "best peace plan" and called on other countries in the world to support it.

Naqavi criticized prime minister Nawaz Sharif for deploying troops in Saudi Arabia, saying Sharif's peace tour of Islamic countries of would be fruitless because of his failure to consult with political and religious leaders at home in advance.

He once again called for a halt to the bombardments of defenceless Iraqi people and for a simultaneous withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait and of foreign forces from the Persian Gulf.

Aggression Against Iraq, Kuwait Condemned

BK3001114491 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 30 Jan 91 p 4

[Unattributed editorial]

[Text] Amidst the din of carpet bombing and missile rains next door, Pakistan and India have quietly put signatures to the Non-attack on Nuclear Facilities Treaty, free of fanfare. Whilst nuclear facilities are sacred and strategic, Pakistan should have secured gaurantees from India, that the genocide in occupied Kashmir will halt. In a milieu where in all rules of war and peace are trampled, as the Ziono-US coalition has done against Iraq, such treaties weigh less than the paper they are written on. The war in the Gulf is presenting new realities every day, as paradoxes cancel one another and crumble. The Bush-Gorbachev summit is the latest victim and could trigger off a major disperception between the two and hopefully tilt the Soviets out of their supposed silence, and in favour of justice and the Muslim Third World, which could be joined by China, and bring the barbaric bombing to a halt. More ominous is the prospective twin threat of nuclear-chemical weapons being deployed as the Ziono-US euphoria and Iraqi patience wanes.

At home, bitter realities are surfacing strongly; Pakistan's current posture is under fire from both the people and the brass. Whilst the COAS [Chief of the Army Staff] Gen. Beg has come out full throatedly against the Zionocentricity of the War, the Prime Minister still chooses to defend himself behind a curtain of doubt. While to the public we appear allies to the Ziono-US Axis, the criminal Axis is treating us as hostile; cutting off arms supplies to us, arms exports from Pakistan and drying all avenues of financial economic access. We have defied the US at crucial times;'49 China, 79 Iran, when we were far weaker and the US stronger; let us now not succumb to becoming their partisans, when they are morally bankrupt and otherwise too, if the crash of '91 has not already occurred in the US.

Too much emphasis is being laid on our not being under US command, defending the holy places, repaying our debt to the House of Saud. The most naive are unwilling to buy all this poppycock. Everybody knows the Saudi regime has signed off every semblance of sovereignty to the Ziono-US Axis. The unjust spilling of Ummah [Islamic Community] blood, more so Muslim, is a crime unholier than destroying the holy places. As far as repaying debts to the Saudi regime, as Pakistanis we may feel some reciprocation but as members of the Ummah, none. The Saudis have been on the side of Muslim bashing in the past 45 years; Lebanon, Iraq-Iran War and

now. Their passive participation in the earlier Arab-Israel Wars and worse, funding to the Afghan Mujahidin is a cruel joke on the Ummah. Our enemies are looking for dents in the Troika and between the people and the Government, let us be guided purely by principles, courage and wisdom and in one voice condemn Ziono-US aggression against Iraq and Iraqi aggression against Kuwait, concentrically plunge the Ummah in jeopardy. [sentence as published] Will Saddam rise to the occasion or is he a terminal megalomaniac.